

The Revisionist

Journal for Critical Historical Inquiry

Volume 2 • Number 4 • December 2004



Top: Painting by Oskar Aul, a German born in 1927 in the Volga area of Russia. In 1941 he was deported to Siberia with millions of other Volga Germans, where they had to perform forced labor until after the war.

Right: Memorial for inmates forced to work for the National Socialists. There is no similar memorial for the millions of Germans who became slaves of the Allies during or after the war.



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Jürgen Graf, ***GIANT With Feet of Clay. Raul Hilberg and his Standard Work on the “Holocaust”***
This outstanding short study provides a merciless demolition of the central claims of the Holocaust thesis by way of a probing examination of Raul Hilberg’s canonical work *The Extermination of the European Jews*. By narrowing his focus to those pages in *Extermination* that deal directly with the plans, program, method, and numerical results of the alleged Nazi mass murder of the Jews, Graf relentlessly exposes the weakness and, often, absurdity of the best evidence for the extermination program, the gas chambers, and anything like the six million death toll. *Giant* is devastatingly funny in its destruction of Hilberg’s flimsy attempts to portray mass gassing and cremation at Auschwitz and Treblinka; its focused brevity makes this book both an excellent introduction and a fine refresher course on the essentials of the revisionist case. **160 pp. pb, 6"×9", ill., bibl., index, \$/€9.95-; £7.-**

Jürgen Graf, Carlo Mattogno, ***Concentration Camp Stutthof and its Function in National Socialist Jewish Policy***

The NS concentration camp of Stutthof (West Prussia) has never been studied by western historians. Heretofore only Polish communist writings existed, to be treated with caution. According to this literature, Stutthof was a ‘makeshift’ extermination camp. Jürgen Graf and Carlo Mattogno have examined this view of Stutthof based on Polish literature and documents located in Russian, Polish, and Dutch archives, paying particular attention to mass transports to and from Stutthof in 1944. The authors prove that the Stutthof camp did not serve as a “makeshift” or any other kind of extermination camp, but that the room claimed to have been used as a homicidal gas chamber was never anything else but a delousing chamber. *Concentration Camp Stutthof* also sheds some light on the fate of those prisoners who were deported to Auschwitz but were never registered in that camp. This is a milestone of research, that no serious historian can afford to ignore. **122 pp. pb, 6"×9", b/w & color ill., bibl., index, \$/€15.-/£10.-**

Jürgen Graf, Carlo Mattogno, ***Concentration Camp Majdanek. A Historical and Technical Study***

Little scientific investigation has been directed toward the camp Lublin-Majdanek in central Poland, even though orthodox Holocaust sources claim that between 50,000 and over a million Jews were murdered there. Until the appearance of *CC Majdanek*, the only works on Majdanek were written under Poland’s communist regime. Mattogno and Graf have filled this glaring research gap with a monumental study that expertly dissects the evidence available on Majdanek. Based on exhaustive research of the primary sources and of the physical remainders of the former camp, this book strikes a death blow to the lie of homicidal gassings at Majdanek. The authors’ investigations lead to unambiguous conclusions about the real history of the camp, which thoroughly destroy the official theses without excusing the abuses tolerated by Majdanek’s wartime commanders. Once again Mattogno and Graf have produced a careful investigative work that sets the standard for treatments of Majdanek. **320 pp. pb, A5, 6"×9", b/w & color ill., bibl., index, \$/€25.-/£18.-**

Don Heddesheimer, ***The First Holocaust. Jewish Fund Raising Campaigns With Holocaust Claims During And After World War One***

Six million Jews threatened with imminent holocaust: this allegation was appearing in U.S. media – but the year was 1919! Don Heddesheimer’s substantive *First Holocaust* documents post-WWI propaganda that claimed East European Jewry was on the brink of annihilation, regularly invoking the talismanic six million figure. It details how that propaganda was used to agitate for minority rights for Jews in Poland, and for Zionism and Bolshevism in Poland and Russia. It also demonstrates how Jewish fundraising operations in America raised vast sums in the name of feeding Polish and Russian Jews, then funneled much of the money to Zionist and Communist “constructive undertakings” – including banks, unions, and kibbutzim – rather than to starving Jews. *The First Holocaust* is a valuable study of American Jewish institutional operations at a fateful juncture in Jewish and European history, an incisive examination of a cunningly contrived campaign of atrocity and extermination propaganda, two decades before the alleged WWII Holocaust. An indispensable addition to every revisionist’s library. **ca. 140 pp. pb., 6"×9", ill., bibl., index, \$/€9.95-/£7.-**

Arthur R. Butz, ***The Hoax of the Twentieth Century. The Case Against the Presumed Extermination of European Jewry***

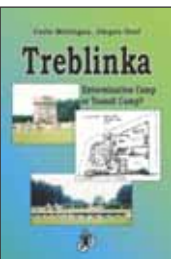
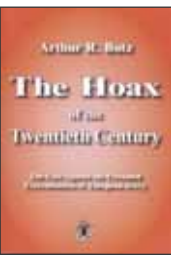
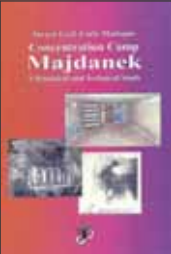
The first book to treat the central questions of the Holocaust allegation with academic rigor, *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century* created Holocaust revisionism as a scholarly discipline with its first appearance in 1976. Few historians could have devised the brilliant strategy that is central to *The Hoax*: Butz’s focus on information long available to the Allies on the operations of Auschwitz, a strategically important petrochemical center. *The Hoax*’s chapters on the question of Allied knowledge of Auschwitz have busied orthodox experts for nearly three decades with trying to explain how mass operations could have gone unnoticed – to no avail. *The Hoax* remains at the center of revisionist inquiry, valuable even in those few areas in which it has been superseded by subsequent research: a book that, especially in this handsome new design, needs to be read and re-read by every serious revisionist. This *new edition* comes with several supplements adding new information gathered by the author over the last 25 years. **506 pp. pb, 6"×9", ill., bibl., index, \$/€25.-; £18.-**

C. Mattogno, J. Graf, ***Treblinka. Extermination Camp or Transit Camp?***

Holocaust survivors report that at least 700,000, and perhaps as many as 3 million people primarily of Jewish faith were murdered in the Treblinka camp, located in eastern Poland, between the summers of 1942 and 1943. Various murder weapons are claimed to have been used: mobile or stationary gas chambers; quicklime; hot steam; high voltage; machine guns; vacuum chambers; chlorine gas; Zyklon B; and diesel exhaust gas. According to the witnesses, the corpses of the victims were finally incinerated on pyres as high as a multi-story building without leaving any traces. In the first part of *Treblinka*, the official account of the camp is subjected to a thorough critique of its historical genesis, inner logic, and technical feasibility. The authors’ analysis reveals that the historical picture prescribed by penal law in many European countries is nothing more than an unbroken chain of absurdities. The second part of *Treblinka* reconstructs from painstaking analysis of the extant evidence Treblinka’s actual function as a transit camp for Jews on route to other locations. **370 pp. pb, 6"×9", ill., bibl., index, \$/€25.-/£18.-**

Carlo Mattogno, ***Belzec in Propaganda, Testimonies, Archeological Research, and History***

Witnesses report that at least 600,000, if not as many as 3 million Jews, were murdered in the Belzec camp, located in eastern Poland, between Nov. 1941 and Dec. 1942. Various murder weapons are claimed to have been used: diesel gas chambers; quicklime in trains; high voltage; vacuum chambers. According to witnesses, the corpses were finally incinerated on huge pyres without leaving any traces. For those who know the stories about Treblinka, this all sounds too familiar. The author has therefore restricted this study to aspects, which are different and new compared to Treblinka, but otherwise refers the reader to his *Treblinka* book. The development of the official image portrait of Belzec is explained and subjected to a thorough critique. In contrast to Treblinka, forensic drillings and excavations were performed in the late 1990s in Belzec, the results of which are explained and critically reviewed. These findings, together with the absurd claims by ‘witnesses,’ refute the thesis of an extermination camp. **140 pp. pb, 6"×9", ill., bibl., index, \$/€12.-/£8.-**



The Revisionist, Volume 2, Number 4, December 2004

Castle Hill Publishers



For US: Tollfree: 1(877) 789-0229; International: ++1(773) 769-1121; Fax: ++1(413) 778-5749
Send check or MO to Castle Hill Publishers, PO Box 257768, Chicago, IL 60625, USA; online: www.vho.org/store

The Revisionist • Journal for Critical Historical Inquiry

Publisher: Castle Hill Publishers, PO Box 257768, Chicago IL 60625, USA; chp@vho.org
PO Box 118, Hastings, TN34 3ZQ, UK

Established: in Fall 2002, first edition in February 2003

Chief Editor: Germar Rudolf; tr@vho.org

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Subscriptions: chporder@vho.org; phone: 1(773) 769 1121

Fax: USA: ++1(413) 778-5749; UK: ++44(8701) 387263 (faxes to both numbers reach us immediately by email)

Internet: http://www.vho.org/tr;

Advertisements: price list from Jan. 1, 2003; please ask us for our Media Data (www.vho.org/tr/MediaData.pdf).

ISSN: 1542-376X

Foreign Language Editor: Jürgen Graf

Reviews: reviews@vho.org

Books Orders: US/CAN: See back cover;

UK & Europe: use website or UK address

Online Book Store: www.vho.org/store

Publication Dates: quarterly; some 120 pages, perfect bound.

Subscriptions including shipping, for U.S.:

– Normal: \$55 (3 years: \$150).

– Students: \$38 (3 years: \$96) (please send photocopy of ID).

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– Free: donors with a yearly donation volume ≥\$55 receive *The Revisionist* for free for one year, but are then asked to convert this into a normal subscription.

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Single Issues: \$15*

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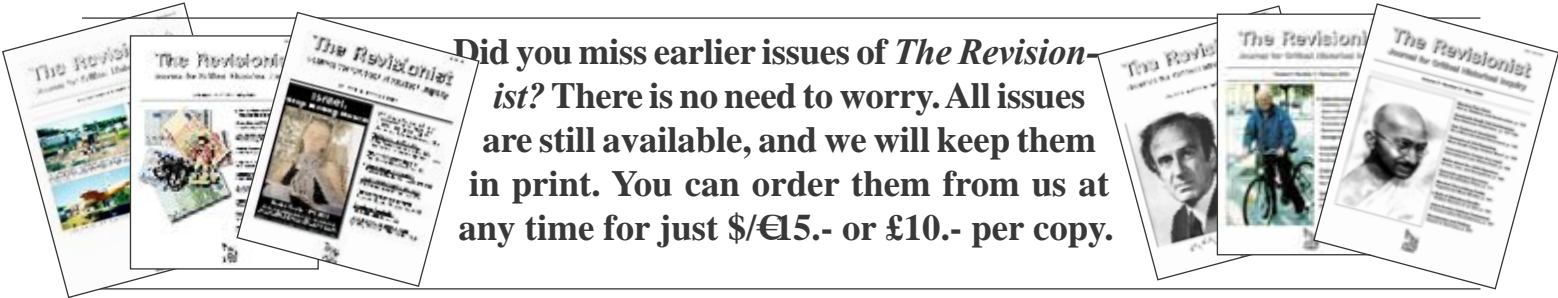
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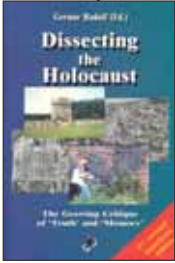
Germar Rudolf (ed.), ***Dissecting the Holocaust. The Growing Critique of ‘Truth’ and ‘Memory’***

Dissecting the Holocaust is the blockbuster anthology that struck Holocaust orthodoxy a body blow from which it has never recovered. *Dissecting* marshals the work of 17 researchers to subject the conventional historiography of the Holocaust to careful, precise, methodical, and withering analysis. G. Rudolf on how chemistry weakens the case for gassing in Auschwitz; C. Mattogno and F. Deana on the crematory ovens of Auschwitz; R. Faurisson, M. Köhler, and C. Jordan on how testimony was coerced and convictions manufactured; F.P. Berg, I. Weckert, C. Mattogno, and A. Neumaier on the technical absurdities of gassing claims for German mobile and stationary gas chambers; U. Walendy and J.C.Ball on analysis of photos alleged to depict the crimes or their locations; Rudolf on the evidence for Jewish losses during WWII; J. Graf on myths about concentration camps; and more. *Dissecting’s* handsome design and format lend themselves well to the numerous illustrations, with which these leading revisionists advance the wealth of evidence against the Holocaust myth. This is a book – *the* book – that every revisionist needs to own, and to read. **2nd, revised paperback edition! 616 pp. pb, 6"×9", b/w ill., bibl., index: \$/€30.-, £20.-**

Germar Rudolf, ***The Rudolf Report. Expert Report on Chemical and Technical Aspects of the ‘Gas Chambers’ of Auschwitz***

In 1988, American expert for execution technologies Fred Leuchter prepared an expert report about the alleged gas chambers of Auschwitz. His conclusion: technically impossible. Ever since, Leuchter has been massively attacked. In 1993, Rudolf, at that time a researcher at a prestigious German Max-Planck-Institute, published a thorough forensic study about the alleged gas chambers of Auschwitz which irons out the deficiencies and discrepancies of the *Leuchter Report*, but confirms its basic conclusion: technically impossible. The *Rudolf Report* analyzes all existing evidence on the Auschwitz gas chambers and exposes the fallacies of various failed attempts to refute Leuchter’s and Rudolf’s findings. The conclusions are quite clear: The alleged gas chambers of Auschwitz could not have existed. In the appendix, Rudolf describes his unique persecution due to his controversial studies.

455 pp. A5, b/w & color ill., bibl., index; pb: \$/€30.-/£20.-; hardcover: \$/€45.-/£30.-



If you do not want to cut the cover of this issue of *The Revisionist*, simply photocopy this page and fill out the copy.

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A Two Year Experiment

By Geremar Rudolf

Publishing a revisionist periodical with scholarly ambitions is not exactly what can be called a profitable enterprise. Not only that there aren't too many people who appreciate dissenting views on politically relevant topics of recent history, but also because scholarly literature simply isn't meant to be absorbed by a mass market. It is reserved for people with an interest in special topics who are educated well over the average. The current print run of this magazine – a mere 500 copies per issue – is not only a result of this, but also a result of the fact that I seem to be unable to get the message out that this periodical actually exists. There is a strange silence out there about it. Many individuals and entities whom we would consider to be interested in revisionism and in a revisionist magazine flourishing, actually do the exact opposite: they obscure its existence from the world. Is it because they fear a competitor? Or is it simply thoughtlessness or carelessness?

In other words: *The Revisionist* is not only making no money, it is actually a huge financial loss. The time spent to put it together can never be covered by the subscription price. So why bother?

That kind of reasoning is exactly why Mark Weber, director of the Institute for Historical Review and editor of the suspended *Journal of Historical Review*, indicated in early January 2005 in a private conversation that he has no intention of resurrecting the *Journal*. After it had dropped below the mark of 200 subscribers in 2002, it would now probably be hard pressed to find 100 readers.

I started *The Revisionist* in 2003, because around that time Mark Weber made it clear by his inactivity that the *Journal of Historical Review* would cease to exist. At that time he claimed that it was only “temporarily suspended,” but I then assumed that this was its demise, and rightly so, as it appears now.

Can historical revisionism exist without a reputable periodical where the most important scholarly works appear or are at least announced, and where the theories of its opponents can be analyzed and refuted? Perhaps it can, but it sure would live a life in the catacombs of society, without a voice anybody would be able to hear and to take seriously. And this should be avoided as long as we all can.

This is not just a matter of status and reputation, but it is also a matter of survival. As all social groups, revisionism as well can survive and prosper only if we can prove to the public that we have a good cause. Our survival re-

quires that we attract at least as many new customers, supporters, volunteers, scholars, and writers, as we unavoidably lose when our aged friends pass away. A periodical is vital to show vitality, it is pivotal to show academic competence, and it is central to bringing the most recent scholarly news about our ongoing research and revelations about censorship against dissenters out into the world. Somebody has to do it.

I dreaded the moment in late 2002 when I saw that nobody else would do it, so I had to do it. I knew I would have to spend uncounted weeks and large amounts of money to produce something that was a little out of my reach: Not only am I not a native English speaker, but I am basically also only a one-man company that would be trying to publish two periodicals at once (*The Revisionist* also appears in the German language – since 1997!), and on top of it to publish an ambitious series of groundbreaking books in both German and English. Anyone out there wanting to do that all by him-/herself? Just you and nobody else?

The way to handle this is by asking for help. There would be no *Revisionist* without numerous volunteers doing most of their work completely free of charge: translators, editors, proofreaders... This magazine exists because it is partly produced by some of its readers. It is a community project. I need to emphasize this here, because I want to bring a message home: *The Revisionist* is not a service enterprise like most mainstream magazines: pay me a few bucks a month, and I will entertain or teach you. Resulting from that is an attitude of expectation, of entitlement that the customer has toward such “normal” periodicals. It would not work with *The Revisionist*. It exists, because I sacrifice lots of my scarce resources, and because many helpers have decided to follow my example.

Hence, whenever I receive a letter by anyone suggesting that *The Revisionist* should feature this or that, or that revisionist should do research into these and those topics, my response to this is simple: if you want to see certain topics covered or certain issues researched, do it! *The Revisionist* is a magazine that WE ALL create together. Most, if not all of us, are or have been, at some point in time, amateur researchers, hobby historians, lay-writers. We all grew because nobody else did it for us, so we had to do it ourselves. And that is also the only way, revisionism can get back on its feet: Do it yourself! I do, what I can, and that is something we all should do.

Imagine that I would disappear tomorrow, and with me all that I created. *The Revisionist* would disappear. The scholarly book series *Holocaust Handbooks* would cease to exist. The world's largest revisionist website would be erased. And the same would happen to my German language part of my activities.

The fact is that the U.S. authorities plan exactly that to happen. When I entered the United States back in 2000, I applied for political asylum, because the German government seeks to imprison me for many years. The reason for their attempt to stifle me is my scholarly research and publications, similar in kind that you now hold in your hands and as it is advertised for in the back of this issue.

In November 2004, the Board of Appeal of the U.S. immigration services decided that my application was "frivolous", that is: deceitful. The strange thing is that they have no evidence to support this claim, which is probably why this accusation appeared only in the written verdict: they did not want to give me a chance of defense. As a result, they want to deport me in handcuffs to a German dungeon (For more about my case, see online: www.germarrudolf.com).

I have filed an appeal with a U.S. federal court to overturn that decision. If justice prevails, they will have to overturn this decision, because not giving a defendant the right of defense is a massive violation of due process. But if justice always prevailed, there would not have been a need to apply for political asylum in the U.S. in the first place. So there is a chance that this move will fail. My lawyer says that it is unlikely to fail, but I have seen water flowing up the hill and horses vomiting, as we Germans say. So I need to be prepared for the worst. And what then?

In November of last year, I decided that I have to build my activities in a way that all the revisionist things I created do NOT disappear when I do. My company needs to have other skillful activists firmly involved who can carry on the legacy. My website must be taken over by people I can trust. And this magazine that you are holding in your hand ought to be produced by capable individuals who know what they are doing, by people who are willing to step up to the duty and sacrifice some of their time and money in order to give an alternative view on history a chance.

When I started reorganizing my activities end of last year, I also changed the priorities of what needs to be accomplished first. Producing this issue of *The Revisionist*, however, was not the top ranking item on my list. The leading items were self-preservation and preservation of my revisionist work. Next came the accelerated publishing of a number of revisionist books carrying important new research results and other important material. These books will be coming out during the first half of this year,

both in German and in English.

Now that all these tasks have either been solved or are well in progress, I can again devote some of my time to this prestige object of mine, the perfect waste of time: producing an intellectual flagship of revisionism. I hope that you understand and accept my explanation for the delay of this issue. But I also hope that you will understand this as a "call to arms" to get involved in this struggle, which we can win only if we do not allow ourselves to be mere spectators in our armchairs and Lazyboys.

Two years have passed since I started *The Revisionist*. I knew that I would be utterly unable to continue this project, if I would not get massive help from the revisionist community, to which I count each and every one of my loyal customers.

After two years, I may express my gratitude, also on your behalf, to those who did help in many ways, be it as volunteers by getting the work done, or by assisting financially.

Now we have reached another limit, which requires even more cooperation between us. We have to make revisionism watertight against the onslaught of the eternal enemy of free speech. We have to make it capable of surviving in good shape in case I go down.

But we also have to enable it to survive vividly in case I manage to get permanent residence in the U.S., because in future I will have to share my duties as a revisionist with my new upcoming duties as a father. Considering both my legal and financial insecure situation, I cannot ask my wife to give up her career to become a stay-at-home mom. Hence, this will be my new spot. This means that starting in late summer of this year, I will have only a fraction of the time to spend on revisionism compared to what I was able to invest during the last eight years.

The good news is that I found already one person who is willing to help as much as he can. Yet one person is not enough. A friend once said that I am doing the work of four. Perhaps he was exaggerating, but it is true that I dedicated almost all of my spare time to revisionism in the past, that I had reached an incredible efficiency by pushing computers and software to their limits. I have therefore developed a high degree of professionalism in what is correctly labeled "home publishing," where most people can do it only as a hobby or as a side-job. So once I have to take care of my child, who is due end of February 2005, one person will simply not be enough.

If you think you can make a real contribution, either by giving some of your time or of your money on a regular and reliable basis to this cause, not only I, but the entire revisionist community would be really grateful.

Think about it, and contact us at the addresses given in the imprint of this issue.



German Forced Labor and its Compensation

A Postwar Problem to Be Finally Resolved

By Prof. Emil Schlee

The public discussion about the compensation of former concentration camp inmates and forced laborers is not only characterized by covering up facts and raising legends and horror stories to reality. It is far more marked by a partiality and one-sidedness which can hardly be surpassed. As is customary, it is also here again overlooked, that the German people, which has had to pay the bill over the past five decades for the so-called reparation, has itself suffered far more under the unjust treatment by the victors and their Allies. Described below is the injustice of the internationally illegal deportation and forced labor of millions of German men, women and children – uncorrected and not even publicly recognized as such – and a minimal restitution for this injustice is calculated.

1. The Burden of “One-sidedness” in the Historical “Coming to Terms with the Past”

Winfried Martini began the introduction of his informative book *Der Sieger schreibt die Geschichte* (The Victor Writes the History) with the sentence:¹

“It is part of the fascinating phenomena of our time, to what extent a military defeat influences the historiography and the general awareness of history and how the victor is spared from moral judgments.”

This experience belonged in the 20th century to the everyday life of the Germans. A century, which was not “The German century”² according to Prof. Eberhard Jäckel, but as Prof. Arnulf Baring correctly questions:³

“Was our century not coined by the rise of the United States to finally become the only world power? [...] However one likes to twist and turn it: [...] it was not at all ours, neither in good nor in bad.”

But, united in “evil,” an anti-German coalition was created subsequent to the time of the resignation of Otto von Bismarck in 1890, perceived secretly, with an unsurpassable destructive intent and goal, to break up the German Reich of Bismarck, to destroy the German people for all time, and to remove the German economic competition from the world for good. In order to achieve this goal, every means was

right.

The central figure of this century with a universal mission was the long serving American President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), who was acting minister of the navy from 1913-1920, and President of the United States of America from 1933-1945, and who had great influence during the times of both world wars. He organized the largest war machinery in world history,⁴ which rolled over the 20th century during two World Wars (also called the “Third Thirty Year War”), regardless whether the rest of the world desired this or not. His troops are still in Germany at the beginning of this 21st century, the Federal republic of Germany is still loaded with numerous dictates, and the victor writes the history.

The latter overloads all Germans with clear one-sidedness of guilt and debt, demands and payments, including compensation for forced labor done in Germany in large numbers, demanded or sued for in courts. Scientific reviews of the pre-history and the actual involvement of world events during the twentieth century show that it is untenable to place on Germany the exclusive war guilt with all the demands and legal violations resulting from it.⁵

Besides the fact that the saying “the first victim during a war is always the truth”⁶ remained unfortunately as true for Germany after the

German Prisoners of War in: ¹³	
Great Britain	3,635,000
USA	3,097,000
USSR	3,060,000
France	937,000
Yugoslavia	194,000
Poland	70,000
Belgium	64,000
CSSR	25,000
Netherlands	7,000
Luxemburg	5,000
Total	11,094,000
Of these in the East	3,349,000
Of these in the West	7,745,000
(Without interned civilians)	

end of the war as it is today, the general concealment of their own guilt by the victorious powers in connection with the ongoing cynical-hypocritical blaming of Germany indicates an abyss of human failure, which cannot be a base for a peaceful future and will sooner or later be caught up by the historic truth! The German poet and playwright Friedrich Hebbel (1813-1863) noted rightly in the first volume of his well known *Tagebücher*:⁷

"There is only one sin, which can be committed against the whole of mankind with all its generations, and this is the falsification of history!"

From hundreds of testimonies, documents, and scientific works, which attest against the sole guilt of Germany for both World Wars, only two are mentioned here. The U.S. historian Prof. H.E. Barnes noted with regards to the question of war guilt of the First World War:⁹

"Of all warring powers Germany was the only one which carries no blame at all for the beginning of the war."

And the Polish States Secretary of the Foreign Ministry, Count Szembek, said on April 11, 1935, to U.S. ambassador W.C. Bullitt:¹⁰

"We are witnessing an aggressive policy of the world against Hitler, more than an aggressive policy of Hitler against the world."

The former Foreign Secretary Henry J. Kissinger also revealed in *Die Welt am Sonntag* on March 1, 1992:¹¹

"America waged war [on Germany] twice within the period of only one generation, because the Ameri-

POW Camps for Germans in:	
Canada	50
USA	450
USA (in Germany)	463
Norway	97
Great Britain	284
British camps in Germany	160
Poland	1,005
France	650
Belgium	30
CSSR	1,409
Rumania	207
Yugoslavia	1,094
Hungary	112
Italia	97
Bulgaria	25
Algeria	11
Libya	10
Egypt	39
USSR	2,125
Australia	9
Total:	8,327

can presidents were convinced that the dominance of a single hostile nation in Europe would be a threat against the American security and economical interests. Nothing has changed of this reality."

In an interview with the *Berliner Zeitung* on January 3, 1997, author Gore Vidal, a cousin of former U.S. vice president Al Gore, explained frankly:¹²

"We started in 1945 to conquer the globe. NATO was not established to protect the poor Europeans from the Russians, but to obtain total control over Western Europe."

Today, Germany is still without a peace treaty, and it feels the burden and provocation of this restraint! This situation also explains the continuous

demands for compensation from all over the world against Germany, which herself does not oppose this at all.

2. There were also Millions of German Forced Laborers!

Contrary to the subject "Forced Labor in the Third Reich," there are hardly any investigations about "Forced Labor of German POWs and Civilian Internees in Foreign Countries" (see the tables).¹³

It is shocking to observe the one-sidedness, with which topics like war guilt, the German Wehrmacht, plans for world domination, and now also the subject of "Forced Labor and Compensation" are dealt with. It is conspicuous to observe the missing attempt to view the specific topic of "forced labor" in a contemporary frame

Number of Days of Imprisonment of German POWs and Deported Civilians ⁸		
Year	In Eastern Internment	In Western Internment
1941	2,422,000	1,740,000
1942	40,050,000	6,383,000
1943	65,154,000	32,800,000
1944	158,647,000	140,111,000
1945	644,725,000	1,538,093,000
1946	502,850,000	736,463,000
1947	396,794,000	325,965,000
1948	265,645,000	65,747,000
1949	116,842,000	-
1950	12,763,000	-
Total	2,205,892,000	2,847,302,000

Number of Work Days of German POWs and Deported Civilians 1941-1956			
Year	In Eastern Internment	In Western Internment	Total
1941	-	-	-
1942	23,013,600	-	23,013,600
1943	33,052,875	2,339,475	35,392,350
1944	81,989,325	10,964,700	92,954,025
1945	317,337,375	118,856,700	436,194,075
1946	340,344,150	257,233,500	597,577,650
1947	286,095,300	170,410,575	456,505,875
1948	196,648,425	32,463,150	229,111,575
1949	90,246,150	-	90,246,150
1950	9,643,875	-	9,643,875
1951-1956	28,731,600	-	28,731,600
Total	1,407,102,675	592,268,100	1,999,370,775

in the sense of similar events in almost all countries, which participated in the war. The starting point is always the claim that Germany is exclusively guilty for everything, even though this has been refuted for quite some time now. Most historians have still not noticed major changes of the historiography on the world wars.

The army of German forced laborers of almost twelve million German soldiers and 1.7 million deported German civilians in twenty different countries, sometimes with forced stays of more than ten years in these countries, appears to them to be no subject at all. They talk about one of the biggest Nazi crimes, of which reparations have not yet been made, "although already during the Nuremberg trials one of the four main charges was 'slave labor'."¹⁴ But nobody seems to notice that the judges of these tribunals come from countries, where such "biggest crimes" were unfolding simultaneously.

Or take Prof. Dr. Ulrich Herbert (Freiburg, Germany), who, in a full page essay with the title "The Million Army of the Modern Slave State. Deported, worn out, forgotten: Who were the forced laborers of the Third Reich, and what was the fate ahead of them?" writes thoughtlessly:¹⁵

"The National Socialist deployment of foreigners between 1939 and 1945 is the biggest case of forced mass utilization of foreign labor in history since the end of slavery in the nineteenth century. By the late summer of 1944, 7.6 million foreign civilian workers and POWs were officially registered as employees within the area of the 'Großdeutsche Reich,' who were mostly brought into the Reich by force."

This article gives the impression that the "slave state of the Soviet Union" did not exist at all, where Siberia from the Ural Mountains to the Bering Strait became a gigantic international cemetery of the dead from more than 28 nations.¹⁶ Also during the time in question, from 1939 to 1945 and until 1956, the "Soviet foreign employment," which included the German POWs and civilian deportees, continuously "employed" a two-digit million number. These slaves had to perform their slave labor in more than 2,000 work and death camps, partly under the most primitive living and camp conditions

(e.g. Workuta).

There were still more than 20 million forced laborers in the fall of 1955.¹⁷ After the war, the "people's democracies" of the east reached a record high in deportation for forced labor. Secret Soviet orders existed to arrest, for example, 27,000 Germans who were able to work below ground in the area of communist East Germany and to exchange them for German POWs who were no longer

Destruction of Health: German Returnees Unable to Work ⁸				
Country detained in	Date of Return	No. of Returnees	% unemployable	Transit- or Discharge Camp
Great Britain	1948 Mar-Nov	11,499	0	Hammelberg
France	1947 May-Jun	370	28	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	1948 Feb-Mar	310	44	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	Jul-Aug	1,408	6	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	Oct-Nov	5,615	0.1	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	1949 Jan-Aug	2,541	0	Ulm-Kienlesberg
Soviet Union	1946 Aug	24,126	66	Friedland
	Sep-Oct	12,260	83	Fiedland
	1947 Mar-Jun		90	Friedland
	1948 Feb-Dec	16,794	62	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Mär-Dec	70,955	85	Hof-Moschendorf
	Dec		54	Friedland
	1949 Jan-Dec	21,427	67	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Jan-Feb	390	36	Hof-Moschendorf
	Jan-Feb		40	Friedland
	May-Jun	9,202	48	Hof-Moschendorf
	Oct	7,076	43	Hof-Moschendorf
	Dec	15,587	68	Hof-Moschendorf
	Dec-1950 Apr		70	Friedland
	Jan	6,060	64	Hof-Moschendorf
	Jan	2,391	58	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
Poland	1948 Nov-Dec	446	70	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Dec	1,446	86	Hof-Moschendorf
	1949 Feb	1,421	77	Hof-Moschendorf
	May-Jun	2,016	51	Hof-Moschendorf
	Oct	419	82	Hof-Moschendorf
	Feb.-Dec	1,380	68	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	1950 Apr-May	109	100	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Apr	138	65	Hof-Moschendorf
	Jun	17	80	Hof-Moschendorf
Czechoslovakia	1951 Apr	85	60	Hof-Moschendorf
	1948 Sep-Dec	1,421	46	Hof-Moschendorf
	Dec	121	43	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	1950 Feb	113	86	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
Yugoslavia	1954 Jan-Mar	221	87	Hof-Moschendorf
	1948 Nov-Dec	2,309	48	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Dec	196	18	Hof-Moschendorf
	Dec	4,485	46	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	1949 Jan	2,494	50	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	Jan-Feb	650	58	Hof-Moschendorf
	Jan-Feb	915	58	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	Feb	17	33	Ulm-Kienlesberg
	Aug	19	74	Hersfeld-Waldschänke
	1950 Apr-Jun	220	9	Ulm-Kienlesberg



able to work in the Soviet Union.¹⁸

Of the Western powers it was especially France, which employed German POWs against the international laws for forced labor. Thousands of Germans perished or suffered horrible mutilations in French captivity while clearing mines.

The real gain from reparations did not come from Germany's industrial installations, noted the US news-magazine *Life*, "but from the German brain and the German research results." Scientists were partly "forced with point blank pistols or with threats of war crime trials" to work for the victors. There were 523 German scientists in the USA in 1947; their number was to be increased to 1000.¹⁹

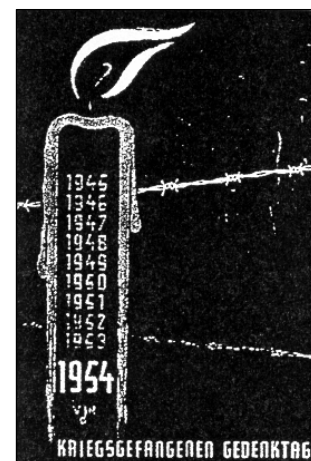
3. Summary and the Request for Equal Treatment of German Forced Laborers.

1. The excessive wave of demands for reparations for forced labor in Germany during the Second World War in the final phase of the 20th century is on one hand the consequence of the missing peace treaty with Germany and on the other hand a sign of insufficient sovereignty and legal defense capability.
2. The latter is a result of the re-education, but also becomes obvious by the one-sidedness of scientific research, which deals especially predominantly with the forced labor problems in Germany during the "Third Reich," but barely with the rather difficult problem of forced labor of Germans in foreign countries. This should obviously be corrected.
3. The form, extent, and motivation of this one-sided and quickly spreading "wave of demands for compensation for forced labor" against Germany in several areas is provocative, especially because the nations making such demands often behaved against German forced laborers neither less illegally nor less ruthlessly.
4. The whole process becomes controversial when one considers how Germany was pillaged and robbed after the capitulation of the German Wehrmacht on May 8/9, 1945, during a continuation of the state of war in the West until 1951 and in the East until 1955. This was a rape and plunder of an entire nation unparalleled and unprecedented in every regard, which people who have the "merci of late birth" (former German chancellor Helmut Kohl) can hardly imagine.
5. All governmental politicians in Germany have to swear an oath following article 56 of the German Basic Law, which requires them to avert damages from the German people. It is time that they take this oath seriously, meaning for example, that they should file class action suits against employers and nations on behalf of the German forced laborers in the spirit of

equality before the law of the nations.

4. Forced Labor of POWs and Deported Civilians

The whole forced labor after the war, which amounts to at least 90 percent of the work shown here, was an infringement of international law unprecedented in scale in the history of mankind. To this day, the forced labor issue has unfortunately not been completely evaluated by any German public authority. It is here for the first time correctly displayed from an economic point of view.²⁰



Days of Forced Labor Imprisonment

(A) POW's	3,502,452,000 (3.5 billion)
Performed by 11.094 million POWs – in eastern countries 3.349 million POWs - in western countries 7.745 million POWs. Of these, 1.5 million died while in captivity, of these 1.335 million in eastern countries. In total, every seventh POW died while in captivity. Two of five prisoners died in the east in death camps. The last prisoners returned home from the Soviet Union in 1956, eleven years after the end of the war!	
(B) Civilian Deportees	3,805,000,000 (3.8 billion)
Performed by 1.7 million Germans deported in 1945. Of these, 580,000 died up until 1950 in eastern death camps – every third deportee.	
Total of Forced Labor Days	7,307,452,000 (7.3 billion)
Hours Worked	73,074,520,000 hrs (73 billion)
The prisoners had to work at least ten hours per day, which resulted in the above number of performed forced labor hours.	
Cost of Labor:	\$365,372,600,000 (365 billion U.S. Dollars)

This compensation for forced labor is derived using the 1999 U.S. hourly minimum wage of \$5.

This amount is practically unimaginable. For comparison: All companies with more than 20 employees of German industry during 1985 with a total of 4,769,000 employees, performed 7,910,100,000 (7.9 billion) working hours. The total of all wages for this was 167.559 billion deutschmarks or roughly \$56 billion U.S. Dollars (the median hourly wage was app. 21 deutschmarks or \$7).²¹

The German forced laborers, POWs, and civilian de-

portees had to produce therefore almost ten times the yearly output in 1985 of all the workers of the West German industry!

The forced labor of the civilian deportees from the Soviet occupied areas of the German Reich proper and Austria could not be determined. There were more than 100,000 Germans who were deported for political reasons and who were almost without exception murdered during imprisonment. The same goes for the more than 100,000 people, who were held in Russian concentration camps of the Soviet occupied zone. The German media reported during a visit of former head of State of communist Germany Erich Honecker in West Germany that in Buchenwald concentration camp alone 80,000 prisoners were murdered after 1945 by the Soviets or their German communist lackeys.²² A total of more than ten percent of the German population had to perform forced labor for years against all international laws.²³

Notes

First published in *Deutsche Militärzeitschrift*, Nr. 18, 1999, pp. 21-26; pictures: Archive Prof. E. Schlee.

¹ W. Martini, *Der Sieger schreibt die Geschichte. Anmerkungen zur Zeitgeschichte*, Munich 1991, p. 10.

² E. Jäckel, *Das deutsche Jahrhundert. Eine historische Bilanz*, Stuttgart 1996; similar also Chr. Graf v. Krockow, *Die Deutschen in ihrem Jahrhundert 1890-1990*, rororo-Sachbuch 9195, Reinbek 1991.

³ A. Baring, *Wem gehört das Jahrhundert?*, book review of E. Jäckel, *Das deutsche Jahrhundert*, op. cit. (note 2), in: *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Jan. 29, 1997, p. 12.

⁴ See D. Bavendamm, *Roosevelts Krieg 1937-45 und das Rätsel von Pearl Harbor*, Munich, Berlin 1993; D. Kunert, *Ein Weltkrieg wird programmiert. Hitler, Roosevelt, Stalin: Die Vorgeschichte des 2. Weltkriegs nach Primärquellen*, Kiel 1984; C. B. Dall, *Amerikas Kriegspolitik. Roosevelt und seine Hintermänner*, Tübingen 1972; B. Colby, *Roosevelts scheinheiliger Krieg. Amerikas Betrug und Propaganda im Kampf gegen Deutschland*, Leoni 1977; H. Fish, *Der zerbrochene Mythos, F. D. Roosevelts Kriegspolitik 1933-1948*, Tübingen 1982; E. Schlee, *Deutschland und die Kriegsschuldfrage. Die Behauptungen der Alleinkriegsschuld Deutschlands sind überholt*, Rosenheim 1999; E. Schlee, *Wessen Krieg war es denn nun eigentlich? Eine kleine Kriegsschuldfrage-Dokumentation*; in: R. Uhle-Wettler, (Hg.), *Wagnis Wahrheit. Historiker in Handschellen?* Festschrift für David Irving, Kiel 1998, pp. 97-121

⁵ Ibid; also: E. Schlee, *Friedensbemühungen Deutschlands im Zweiten Weltkrieg*, in: *Deutsche Militärzeitschrift* No. 17 (March 1999), pp. 14-19.

⁶ U.S. Senator Hiram Johnson; in: M. Baham, *Kriegstromele. Medien, Krieg u. Politik*, Munich 1996, p. 36.

⁷ Fr. Hebbel, *Tagebücher*, vol. I, Vienna 1885; quoted in: K. Peltzer, *Das treffende Zitat. Gedankengut aus drei Jahrtausenden und fünf Kontinenten*, Thun 1974, p. 259.

⁸ Statistisches Bundesamt, in: VdHD e.V. (ed.), *Die deutschen Kriegsgefangenen des Zweiten Weltkrieges*, Bonn-Bad Godesberg, 1989.

⁹ Quoted in: *Ztschr. Nation Europa*, 5, 1954, p. 4.

¹⁰ Quoted in: E. Maier-Dorn, *Alleinkriegsschuld*, Großaitingen 1970, p. 149.

¹¹ H. A. Kissinger, "Die Einigung Europas darf nicht auf Kosten der NATO erfolgen. Die Prämissen, aus denen die Atlantische Allianz ihre Existenzberechtigung ableitet, brechen zusammen," *Welt am Sonntag*, no. 9, March 1, 1992, p. 5.

¹² Gore Vidal in an interview with *der Berliner Zeitung*, no. 2/1997, Jan. 3, 1997.

¹³ In: *Ruhrwort*, 21(23), Juni 9, 1979, p. 3; *Was Heimkehrer nie vergessen werden. In Bochums "Dankeskirche" bleibt die Erinnerung wach*, Special print, Bistum Essen.

¹⁴ *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* of March 31, 1999, p. 51.

¹⁵ *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, March 16, 1999, p. 54.

¹⁶ D. Friede, *Das russische Perpetuum Mobile*, Würzburg 1959; see chapter "28 Nationen in den Zwangsarbeitslagern:" "Die Zahl der Sklaven ist achttellig geworden." "Die Sklaven-Reservoirs"; of great importance are the 22 documentary volumes of the Wissenschaftlichen Kommission für deutsche Kriegsgefangenengeschichte, from 1957 to 1974, edited under the directorate of Prof. Dr. Erich Maschke: E. Maschke, (ed.), *Zur Geschichte der Deutschen Kriegsgefangenen des Zweiten Weltkrieges*, Bielefeld 1962; introduction in vol. I/1, pp. VII-XX.

¹⁷ D. Friede, *ibid.*, p. 68; see also: St. Courtois, *Das Schwarzbuch des Kommunismus. Unterdrückung, Verbrechen und Terror*, Munich, Zürich 1998; G. Schirmer, *Sachsenhausen – Workuta. Zehn Jahre in den Fängen der Sowjets*, Tübingen 1992; P. Carell, G. Böldicker, *Die Gefangenen. Leben und Überleben deutscher Soldaten hinter Stacheldraht*, Darmstadt 1980; G. Frey, *Deutschlands Ausplünderung*, Munich 1993; Verband der Heimkehrer, G. Berndt, *Die deutschen Kriegsgefangenen des Zweiten Weltkrieges. Ein geschichtlicher Abriss in Fakten*, Bonn-Bad Godesberg 1989; Deutsches Rotes Kreuz-Suchdienst (ed.), *Zur Geschichte der Kriegsgefangenen im Westen. USA – Großbritannien – Frankreich – Belgien – (Schweden)*, Bonn 1962; L. Peters, *Das Schicksal der deutschen Kriegsgefangenen. Wir haben Euch nicht vergessen!*, Tübingen 1995 (I took some illustrations from this for my article, pp. 394, 476); H.H. Meyer, *Kriegsgefangene im Kalten Krieg. Die Kriegsgefangenenpolitik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland im amerikanisch-sowjetischen Machtkampf von 1950-1955*, Osnabrück 1998.

¹⁸ A.E. Epifanow, H. Mayer, *Die Tragödie der deutschen Kriegsgefangenen in Stalingrad von 1942-1956 nach russischen Archivunterlagen*, Osnabrück 1996, p. 204.

¹⁹ See G. Frey, op. cit. (note 17), p. 240.

²⁰ Numbers from: *Zur Geschichte der deutschen Kriegsgefangenen des Zweiten Weltkrieges*, vol. XV, pp. 191 ff., Verlag Ernst und Werner Gieseking, Bielefeld 1974, and Gerhard Reichling, *Die Deutschen Vertriebenen in Zahlen*, Kulturstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, Bonn 1986. The statistical data are calculated using reasonable economic methods.

²¹ *Statistisches Jahrbuch für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland* 1986, p. 178.

²² *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Sept. 12, 1987.

²³ Karl Baßler, "Die Ausraubung des Deutschen Volkes," *Huttenbriefe*, issues 1-3, 1988, Stockstadt.

How a TV Documentary Turned a British War Crime into a German War Crime

By Paul Amner

With British armored forces only hours away from finishing World War II, Heinrich Himmler ordered approximately 10,000 weak and sick prisoners from the concentration camp Neuengamme and its satellite camps to be transferred to three ships parked in the Bay of Lübeck. The three ships were the *Deutschland*, the *Thielbek* and the cruise liner *Cap Arcona*. Accompanying these prisoners were some camp guards and a number of German medical personnel.

On May 3, 1945, with British armored columns less than 80km away from Lübeck, a squadron of British Typhoon fighter-bombers attacked the three ships, firing rockets and machine guns. None of the three ships was armed with any sort of weaponry; the *Cap Arcona* was a prestigious passenger liner and so within seconds of the attack starting, the ship's captain ordered his second officer to hoist a huge white flag across the top deck, to signal its surrender.

Despite the huge white flag and the Red Cross flag the ship had already been flying, and even after the burning passenger liners had rolled over, the British pilots continued to attack and fire their machine-guns into the hundreds of people swimming helplessly in the water around the blazing ships.

On the 27th August, 2004, a major German TV channel showed a documentary of this mass murder, in which approximately 7,000 unarmed concentration camp pris-

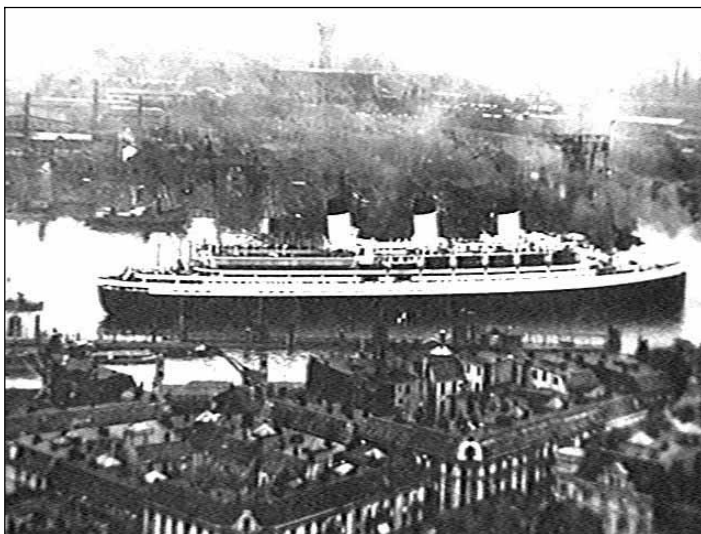
oners were killed.

During the 45-minute-long documentary the film-makers tried to give the impression the Nazis 'had planned the massacre that way;' they called the ships, quote; 'Floating Concentration Camps' (ignoring the fact that the prisoners were housed in luxury, as shown in these photos of the interior of the *Cap Arcona*.)

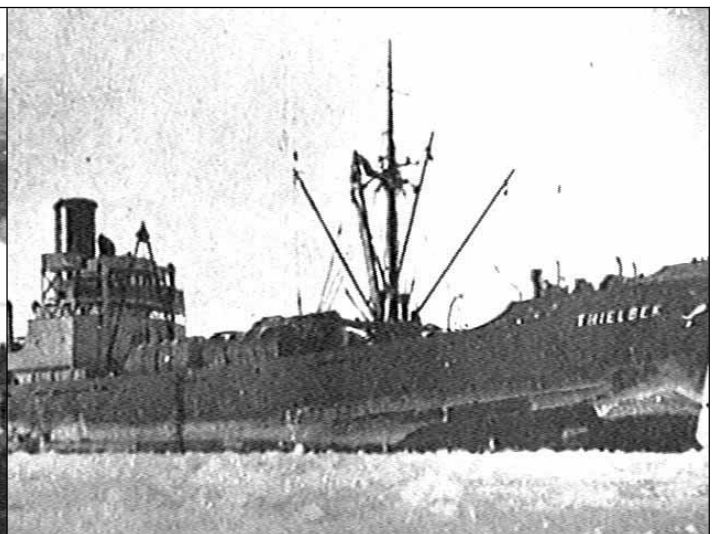
The film-makers and some of the prisoners who survived actually claimed that Himmler had really planned to scuttle these ships at sea and thereby rid himself of 10,000 witnesses from the camps. The Royal Air Force supposedly attacked believing the ships contained only fleeing SS forces and were therefore fooled into helping Himmler carry out his devilish plan.

The film-makers claimed this in an attempt to push the blame for the deaths onto the SS and not the Royal Air Force, but it didn't quite succeed because the second officer of the *Cap Arcona*, who also survived, obviously didn't know about any plan to scuttle the ship, and why would the German guards and medical personnel who went on board, all volunteer to commit suicide?

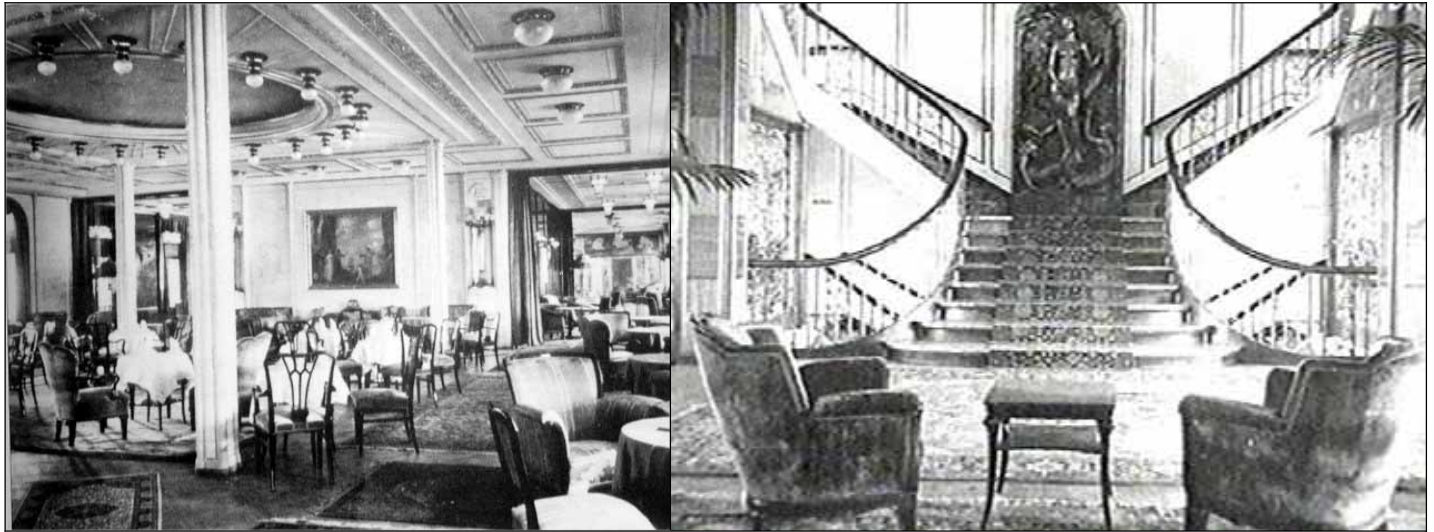
Then once again, demonstrating the typical arrogance and stupidity shown by many of these 'documentary' film-makers, they shot themselves in the foot because some of the British pilots who were interviewed for the film, freely admitted that Royal Air Force Fighter Command not only knew the ships were carrying concentra-



The *Cap Arcona*



The *Thielbek*



Inside the Cap Arcona

tion camp prisoners but purposefully did not inform the pilots before the attack.

When the pilots were asked, “Even though you knew it was a war crime, *why* did you continue to fire upon the people floundering in the water?” their very British answers were:

“These things happen in war.”

Imagine if a German officer in Nuremburg had just shrugged his shoulders and said, “S... happens”!

The film-makers showed the large memorials erected to the memory of the 7500 dead prisoners and played Jewish Klezmer music in the background to give the impression the victims were mostly Jews. The truth is, less than one fifth of the prisoners on board were Jewish.

There was no mention at all made in the film about the German doctors and nurses, crew members or camp guards who also died during the attack; no memorials for them were ever erected, although their losses must also have been very high.

As is usual with these documentaries, there were the unbelievable ‘eyewitness testimonies’ about the sinking, such as the survivor who claimed:

“Just before I jumped over the railing into the water, I was approached by an SS guard I knew, he pulled out his pistol and, before I could stop him, he shot himself in the head.”

Another survivor, quote:

“A German patrol boat came out of the

harbor towards us; we thought it had come to save us, but instead it started running over the people swimming in the water, killing them with its propellers. A British plane came and sank it and we all cheered.”

Another one claimed that local Germans helped fish survivors out of the water and once on land the Germans then set about killing them and were only stopped by the arrival of British tanks. (Why pull them out of the water?)

At subsequent war-crime trials the German guards from Neuengamme camp who had survived the sinkings, plus the camp’s Commandant Max Pauley, were blamed for the deaths and hanged. There were some feeble attempts to bring the British pilots to justice for shooting the unarmed civilians, but although the Royal Air Force admitted it knew the ships were full of camp prisoners and that the pilots were not told this before the mission, nothing was ever done about it.

The plaque to the memory of those killed still claims that those killed were the victims of Nazi dictatorship. No plaque remembering the dead German crew members, medical personnel, or guards has ever been erected.



A Memorial Lie: “We remember the 7,000 victims of the Nazi dictatorship who were killed in the Bay of Neustadt.”

Sauna a "Crime"?

By Dipl.-Ing. Werner Rademacher

A noteworthy article appeared in the German daily newspaper *Die Welt* in the section "Welt der Wissenschaft" on February 7, 1997, under the title "When the Memories of a Witness become murky" about an American study on this phenomenon. Around the same time we reviewed the book *Die Todesfabrik*¹ by Kraus and Kulka about the POW camp Auschwitz-Birkenau and found on pages 47f. a confirmation of said study. Our example, which we will present below, shows that contemporary historiography is loaded with simple misinterpretations. In the mentioned example the authors are lacking sufficient general knowledge.

It is for this reason that under the title "The Finnish Sauna" the recreational hobby of a doctor – a sauna – is incomprehensibly subjected to false interpretation. The installation for hygiene becomes a "crime against humanity":

"This so-called scientific work, like all work of Nazi doctors in concentration camps, has already

been assessed by experts and the courts, which tried these war criminals, sentenced them.

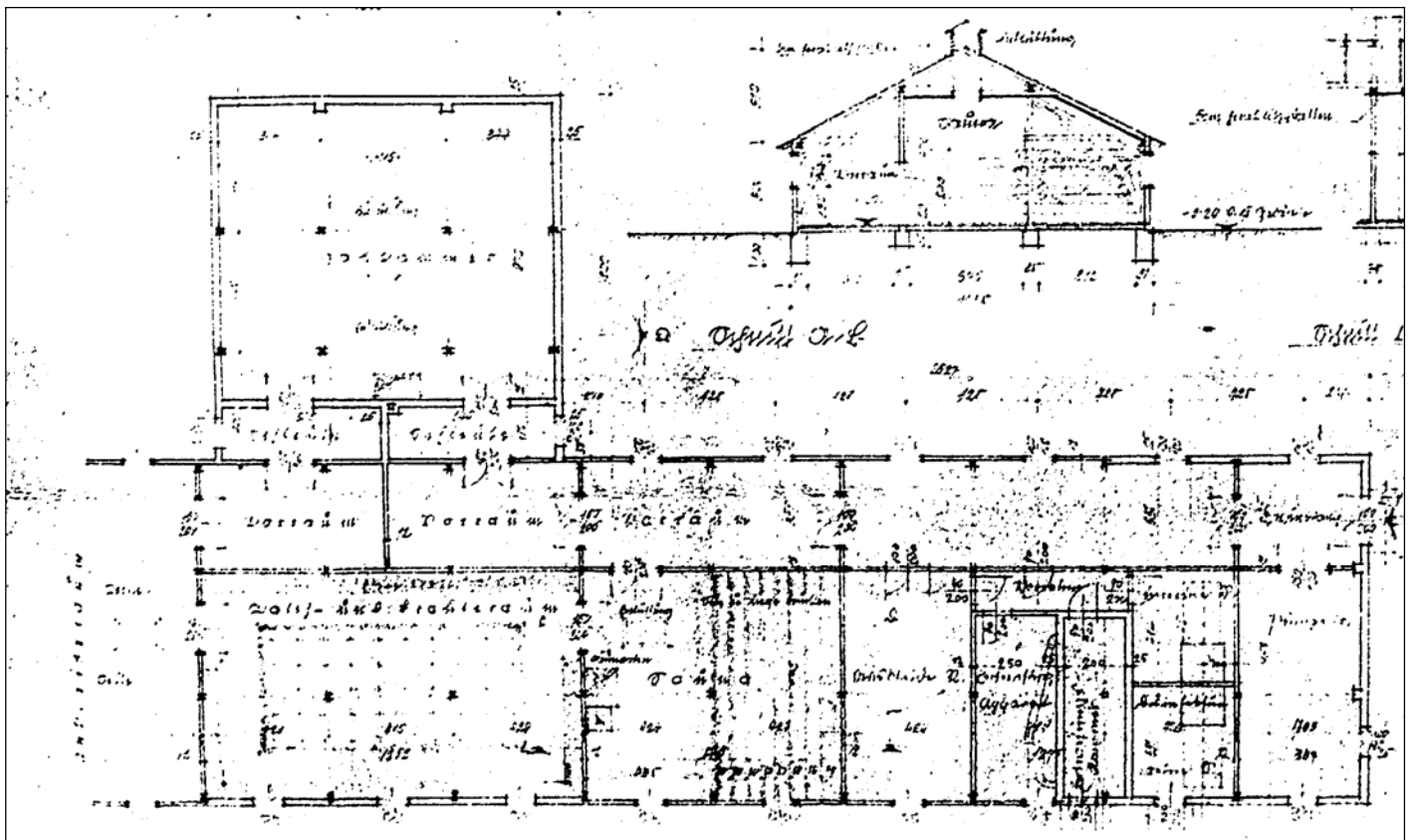
Everyone can see, even without having expert knowledge, that the Nazi physicians continuously committed crimes against humanity. We cannot forget the SS-officer, a doctor, who resided in Birkenau in the beginning of 1943. His hobby was the 'Finnish sauna'.

This bath house in Birkenau consisted of two rooms, which were separated by an airtight and lockable door.

The inmates had to undress in the hall and turn in their clothes and underwear for delousing.

A large brick oven was in the first room, in which large stones were heated for several hours until they were white-hot before the beginning of the bath. On the wall across from the oven primitive benches were arranged in steps up to the ceiling.

The naked inmates had to sit on these benches



III. 1: A sauna for the inmates in the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, to keep them clean and healthy:
A crime against humanity, indeed. (See the section enlargement on next page.)

pressed together as close as possible. One sat next to the other, the healthy touching the sick, of which many had contagious skin infections.

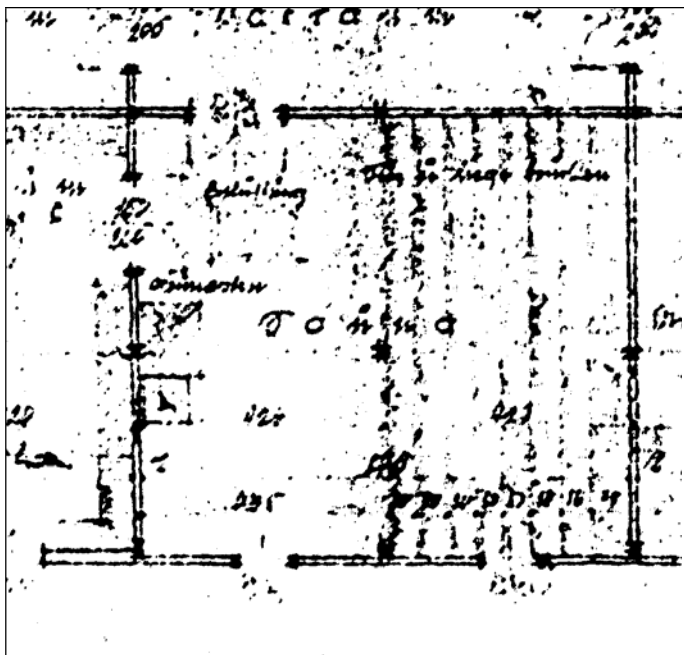
Then water was poured over the heated stones. The emaciated, sick, ravaged bodies of the inmates began to sweat heavily though the thick steam. The newcomers, who climbed to the highest benches, sweated most. The sweat ran from everyone in streams, mixed with the dirt and the puss of the festering ulcers.

When some began to faint, supervising inmates, shouting and swinging sticks, opened the airtight locked door to the second room and drove the naked inmates through to stand under ice cold showers. Drying off followed; there was always one towel per ten inmates for this purpose.

In the meantime, in the room where the underwear and the deloused clothes were returned, an indescribable chaos developed. As a rule nothing was left for the last person. Here, survival of the fittest was the law.

The result of this bath was deadly pneumonia, as was the intention of the SS-doctor"

This is a report about events which occurred in 1943. According to our present knowledge there was only one building in the POW camp in Birkenau which contained a sauna. It was located in the construction section B Ia and was designated as BW 5a. A construction drawing of the Central Construction Office of the Waffen-SS and Police in Auschwitz is presented in drawing No. 1715 dated Sept. 25, 1942.² We include this plan to aid the reader's



III. 2: Section enlargement of III. 1. Written in old German script (Sütterlin): "Sauna"

visualization (see above). Based on additional text it can be assumed that it was this building which is meant.

The false interpretation shows that the authors Kraus and Kulka did not know what a sauna is. To today's critical readers, who in general are familiar with saunas, the sauna as described by the authors appears completely normal and the interpretation of the authors seems somewhat distorted.

Sauna is the Finnish word for 'sweating room.' In Finland even the remotest farm house has such an installation. Less known is the fact that in Germany during the Middle Ages this form of bath was known as "Badstube" (bath room). This practice disappeared under the influence of the Catholic Church.

The German soldiers in Russia and especially in the Baltic States were introduced to and appreciated this form of bath, which was almost unknown to them. Because of this the sauna again became important for hygiene.

The sanitary offices were asked to build saunas for regular use by the troops through instruction sheets, which were issued by the highest command offices. After each position change at the front, new saunas were constructed, mostly by Russian auxiliaries as "specialists." There were two types, one with and the other without a draft chimney. If our assumption is correct, the sauna installation in Birkenau was equipped with such a chimney.

We were able to obtain such an instruction sheet for the Wehrmacht from relevant sources.³ It can be assumed that the reconstruction of building BW 5a can be traced back to this. Even the title of the military instruction sheet, "Importance and Application of Saunas for the Resilience and Health of the Troops", makes it clear that the authors Kraus and Kula misunderstood the hygienic measures described. Since treatment of diseases and their prevention is an essential purpose of the sauna, we will reproduce this text verbatim:

Treatment of Diseases in the Sauna

It can only briefly be mentioned here that the sauna bath has been used successfully for healing many diseases in the field. First are all diseases which have been treated with sweating procedures for ages: these include colds and catarrhs of the upper respiratory system, sinuses and obstinate bladder catarrhs. Also treatable are almost all forms of rheumatism, especially muscle rheumatism, backache and neuralgia. Successful recoveries were observed in sick persons with stomach catarrh and stomach or duodenum ulcers, provided they were not new bleeding ulcers. To heal a person with a sick stomach, better circulation to the surface of the skin is especially desirable; a goal which can be completely achieved in the sauna. Under the unfavorable hygienic conditions in the East,

skin diseases and their variants have given us problems to a larger extent. In this category are furuncles, scabs and pus rashes, scabies, sweat gland abscesses and itchy skin rashes caused by vermin, and all skin diseases which can be healed through proper use of the sauna or at least favorably influenced in addition to other means. In addition to heat, perspiration, increased blood circulation and sap from birches, the germ- and bacteria-killing smoke certainly plays a part in the healing process. For this reason Finnish doctors especially attribute an increased healing effect to the primitive smoke sauna, and even today Finnish farmers use the completely sterile smoke sauna as an everyday room with best results. If used properly, the chimney sauna can also be flooded with the smoky aroma of burning wood by opening the oven door above the hot stones during the bath. Only in a sauna without a draft-chimney is the continuous, smoky impregnation of the room missing.

If the sweat bath is used to treat sick people, an exact treatment plan must be prepared after a checkup by the responsible physician. The sauna bath causes strong reactions within the organism, which always means a pleasant feeling for the healthy, but not for the sick, where it can only be used under a physician's care as a cure for certain diseases.

By summarizing the important points in this instruction sheet, the characteristics of the sauna bath become even clearer:

"The sauna bath serves to clean the body, to strengthen it and to prevent illness."

"The sauna is a hot-air and not a steam bath."

"It is wrong to change the Finnish sauna into a steam bath by continuously adding water."

"After the sweating and washing follows a sudden [emphasized added] cooling off by pouring cold water over the body [...]."

"In no case is one permitted to leave the sweat bath without a thorough cooling-off."

"The sweat bath serves first for hygiene and cleanliness. There is no other bath that cleanses the skin surface in a similar way."

In conclusion:

"[...] regular use of the sauna is the best proven means for hygiene, strengthening and health preservation."

In conclusion it should be indicated that Kraus and Kulka were not the only ones who made incorrect inferences. The witness Marcha Ravin had a similar experience; her testimony was reproduced by the pharmacist Jean-Claude Pressac in his book² on page 53.

This is how a regular visit to a sauna, a way to preserve health or heal inmates, was named a "crime against humanity" because of lack of knowledge.

This event shows how witness testimonies can be seriously distorted and how the realities in Birkenau, where the well-being of the inmates was evidently a priority, can oppose these testimonies. It also indicates once more that considerably more research is necessary.

Notes

First published as "Sauna ein 'Verbrechen'?" in: *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 1(4) (1997), pp. 245ff.

¹ O. Kraus, E. Kulka, *Die Todesfabrik*, Kongress-Verlag, Berlin 1958.

² J.-C. Pressac, *Auschwitz: Technique and Operation of the Gas Chambers*, Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, New York 1989, p. 57.

³ W. Hangarter, *Bedeutung und Anwendung der Sauna für Abhärtung und Gesunderhaltung der Truppe*, Berlin 1942.

Auschwitz: The Paradox of Experiences

How a Witness Did Not See the Forest for the Trees

By Dipl.-Ing. Gerhart Baum

The Cause

On November 2, 1996, a lady named Ruth Schindler wrote a letter to the editor of the German daily newspaper *Die Welt*. Her letter began with the statement that she was an Auschwitz survivor, a fact which probably placed her

on higher moral ground in the eyes of many readers. One reader of this newspaper wanted to know more about her experience in Auschwitz and wrote a response to the author of the letter (name and address known to the editor):

The Correspondence

A.E. [...] [...], 11/3/1996

Mrs. Ruth Schindler, [...]

Subject: Your Letter to the Editor of *Die Welt* on 11/2/1996, Page 9

Dear Mrs. Schindler,

As a member of the post-war generation, I read your letter to the editor of *Die Welt* on 11/2/1996 with great interest. You wrote:

"I was born in Prague, am a Jewish woman, and spent a full year inside the family camp at Auschwitz. My whole group was gassed the night of March 6, 1944 – only 22 people survived."

I have two questions about your horrific life experience:

What is a "family camp"? – Could you give me a brief description?

Obviously you are one of the 22 people mentioned above who survived (the walk to) the gas chambers. Could you tell me how and why you and your 21 fellow sufferers had the great fortune to survive this?

I would be very grateful for a clarification from you, for was it not the chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, Ignatz Bubis, who once said that one must be familiar with history in order to learn from it? You are a living eyewitness who knows what I cannot.

Sincerely,

A.E.

Ruth Schindler [...] 11/5/96

To Mr. A.E. [...]

Dear Mr. E.,

I received your letter today and would like to answer it right away. I am always pleased when I find interest and sympathy for my reports within the "postwar" generation. I speak frequently before young people, because I think that it is important to keep them informed, so that the tragic history of the Germans never repeats itself. I will try to answer your questions briefly.

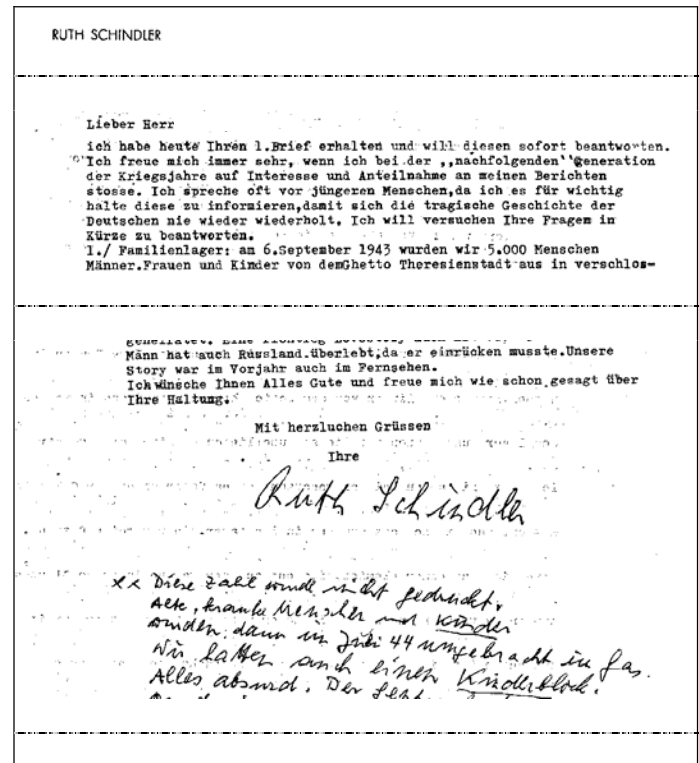
1. Family Camp: Five thousand people from the ghetto Theresienstadt – men, women and children – were deported to Auschwitz in closed cattle cars and brought to the camp Birkenau BIIb, a sub-camp of Auschwitz. Men on one side of the camp and women on the other, five hundred people crowded together in a block. Another five thousand people came to our camp in December, and

2,500 in May 1944. I am only reporting the facts, without emotion, which would take too many pages.

During the Nazis' occupation of the CSR, my country, I had already decided to never obey them, and I also stuck with this firmly. I brought – I came with my mother – my food bag in the camp, which was against the rules. This was my salvation. During the excitement that came from being tattooed with a number on my left arm – we did not get anything to eat or to drink for two days – I drank from the aluminum bottle in my bag, believing it was vinegar. It was vinegar concentrate, which we had taken with us for the long journey to the east. I immediately felt bad burns in my throat and was brought to the sick-bay (hospital) in our camp for treatment. My mother stayed in the block and reported terrible stories daily about the crowding and hunger there. Therefore I wanted to stay in the hospital as a nurse and also put in a request for a job in the hospital office (admission and discharge). Our record cards on file in the main camp, as we learned later, were marked with SB after six months, which stands for "Son-

derbehandlung", which means gassing. When the time arrived on March 6, 1944, Mengele (the name is certainly known to you) prepared a deferment list for doctors, nurses and five pairs of twins, whom he performed tests on. After 32 hours of anxiously waiting inside the quarantine camp next to us, our locked block was opened and the hospital personnel were permitted to return to the camp BIIb. 120 sick people also survived, among them my mother. We were told that we were to be sent to Heidebrek to work, so that no panic would develop. My mother was sick in my station and survived. This was great luck. I was not afraid and also falsified index cards for the next gassing in July 1944, when people who were able to work were sent to other camps: only those between fifteen and fifty years of age were sent, so I changed my age. I was also in the KZ Stutthof and Korben close to Bromberg in a tent camp, and we dug trenches for the Todt Organization. My mother was always with me and peeled potatoes in the kitchen. I was very lucky and worked in a small office inside the tent with our shoemaker. There were two thousand women altogether. There was hardly anything to write, we only prepared the index cards for the camp. We also had more to eat, we were all young and had no dead. We had the great fortune to be liberated in the east by the Russians on January 26, 1945. However we did participate in the so-called death march, where weak and sick girls who could not walk any longer were shot by the Latvian SS who guarded us. This was a great tragedy. Nevertheless, after liberation I made the following resolution: I will not hate and will never speak of collective guilt. I have been faithful to this.

I hope that I have given you sufficient explanations, and if you have children, they should also read my report. The young should always speak out against injustice. They must defend themselves and never be afraid! My



mother lived with us in Hamburg. I married my childhood sweetheart from Prague, from gymnasium and dancing lessons. He is not Jewish, but always stayed with me, also without fear! We married after the war, a real love story. My husband was drafted but survived Russia, also with much luck. Our story was shown on TV the year before last. I wish you the very best and I am pleased about your attitude, as I already mentioned.

With friendly greetings

Your [signed] Ruth Schindler

A.E. [...] [...], 11/25/1996

Mrs. Ruth Schindler, [...]

Dear Mrs. Schindler,

I thank you very much for your letter of 11/5/96 and the very detailed description of your stay in the KL Auschwitz. It's very different to hear a personal, eye witness account of how it was at that time than to read the "reports" in the newspapers, which were written by young people who really could not know firsthand what they were writing about. While reading your letter, I had the urge to sit at the side of my grandfather again, who could also talk interestingly about his time, a time which

I, as one who was born after the war, only know from the history books.

But I missed something, i.e. a thorough description of those terrible gas chambers, about which much is always written and talked, and I don't know whether that is all correct. You wrote about the gas chambers rather casually and much too little for my satisfaction. Of course almost 50 years have passed since then, and this is a long, long time for everyone. But on the other hand it is known that older people and especially older women have excellent memories for events from long ago.

Could you please describe to me once more what you can report about the gas chambers? Please attempt in your answer if possible to clearly describe what you saw yourself and what you only know from hearsay. Then I can

read to my children later (I kept your first letter, of course) what a Jewish eyewitness experienced herself and what she heard from others.

With friendly greetings your

[signed] A.E.

Ruth Schindler [...] 11/28/1996

To Mr. A.E. [...]

Dear Mr. E.,

I received your letter yesterday and would like to answer right away. I don't like to carry on this horrible subject, which you inquire too much about, and therefore would rather answer right away. I already told you that my whole group was killed in the gas chambers of Auschwitz in the night from March 6 to March 7, 1944. The oldest of the camp, a Hamburger by the way, therefore a German inmate, came into our room in the hospital crying, banged his head against the table and said that he saw them all lying dead, gassed. Hanna, Wera, Ilse etc. (His name was Willi Brachmann, much older than ourselves; he is not alive any more, but I spoke with him here in Hamburg.) But we do not need Willi B. for this; all of us in Auschwitz knew what was going on right after our arrival in this hell. It smelled of smoke, the chimneys were continuously burning, and older inmates explained to us that people were gassed here by the thousands daily. Often whole transports went directly from the ramp (railroad platform) to the so-called "bathrooms", where they had to undress. They were told they had to take a shower and receive new clothes, and then they were forced naked into the chambers. Other inmates, the so-called "Sonderkommando," had to do this terrible job. These inmates were also gassed after about two months, because they knew too much. As far as I know two survivors of this commando live now in Israel. Only Jewish inmates were allowed to do this work. The people were driven into concrete chambers, too many, tightly pressed against each other. Heavy doors were closed from the outside. Above was an aperture through which SS officers discharged Zyklon-B from containers, the opening was closed and the people suffocated, the ones at the bottom faster, the ones on top slower. It lasted 3 minutes as measured. Terrible. Horror stories are nothing compared to this. The corpses were then dragged out by inmates and burned in the crematoria. The chimneys smoked without interruption, and it always smelled of burned flesh in Auschwitz. So, I have had enough of this report now. It is always

quite exhausting.

Buy yourself a book from Hermann Langbein about Auschwitz. He was the oldest German inmate in Auschwitz and lived through all of it and wrote many books. He died at the age of 84 years about a year ago; I knew him personally from lectures. He was also a witness during many trials. Another excellent book is *Der SS-Staat* by Eugen Kogon. Because the killing was initially too slow, the Nazis developed over the time the factory style killing, which murdered masses of people, about 4 million. German companies were the producers. Unique in the history of mankind.

Many friendly greetings from

[signed] Ruth Schindler

Turn the page!

I read your letter once more. [I] saw the gas chambers myself twice! The first time was when I had my appendix removed in the F-camp. Right next to it was the building with the gas chamber. At night, from the recovery room, I saw how fully loaded buses drove there, the people were screaming, it was awful. These trucks disappeared into nowhere, the people as smoke into the sky. An old inmate woke me up – after my operation – so that I could see everything. I saw the chambers the second time when we could leave Auschwitz as workers in July 1944, thank God. We spent a whole night sitting close by and did not know whether we would leave or not. Then we were taken in the morning to have a shower. Before that we had a selection in my BIIb camp; only those who could work survived our camp. In July we were about 7000 people, 2000 were selected for work, the rest were gassed, older and sick people, especially many children. You should call me and thank me for the physical effort I have put into reporting all this to you, really.

[...telephone number] I was not inside the gas chambers, else I could not write to you!

The Analysis

MEDICAL HELP FOR THE INMATES

According to the established historiography, inmates, especially Jews, who fell sick inside the camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, were not cared for at great cost, but were sent into the gas chambers together with inmates who were unable to work, the elderly, and children. The existence of the rather large hospital in Auschwitz-Birkenau, however, is an indication that this was not so. The many thousands of medical reports about the types of treatment and recovery of patients, which came to light in connection with the trial case of Weise, are clear proof of the actual massive medical help given in the hospital.¹

And finally, Frau Schindler herself is the best proof for the thesis that sick inmates were helped in Auschwitz: her throat burn was treated; she kept a data file about many sick people who were dismissed after their recovery; 120 sick inmates survived a selection; her appendix was surgically removed; her sick mother was allowed to cure her illness without a problem. The way in which Frau Schindler reported about this medical help is also

proof that in Auschwitz it was an unquestioned part of the welfare of inmates.

SPECIAL TREATMENT AND QUARANTINE MEASURES

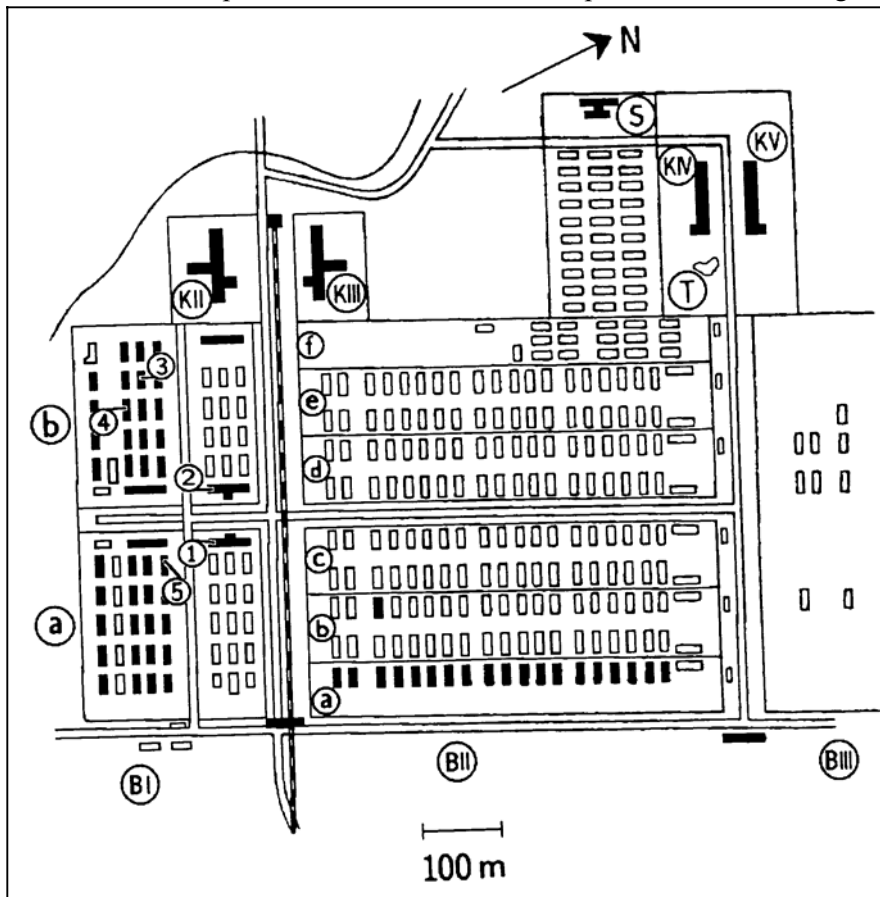
A widely known prominent example of a survived "Sonderbehandlung" (special treatment) is Simone Veil, born Jacobs, who also had a "SB" entered in the lists of the KZ Auschwitz, but survived this treatment and later could advance to the position of the President of the European Parliament.

As W. Stromberger and Carlo Mattogno indicated, the word "Sonderbehandlung" in Auschwitz actually stands for special hygienic measures for the prevention of epidemics, i.e. delousing, physical cleaning, quarantine etc.² Frau Schindler herself supports this interpretation when reporting that she was in the quarantine section of the camp inside a cordoned-off barrack where she had to stay for an extended period of time. Also, her alleged first observation of the gas chamber sounds of such a measure. She reported that she observed buses or trucks driving to a building directly adjacent to the sick camp, wherein she only assumed (!) that there were gas chambers (she did not see any, as she said so herself).

According to the plan of Birkenau, the buildings of the sick camp (BIIf) were located directly adjacent to crematorium V and at the access street to the Central Sauna, which was the main place for camp hygiene with showers for inmates, steam-, and hot-air delousing equipment since the beginning of 1944. Since all new camp arrivals had to go through a cleaning procedure for hygienic reasons, it is not unlikely that this is where they were sent. But to Mrs. Schindler these vehicles full of people simply disappeared without leaving a trace (which of course is not possible).

SELECTIONS FOR WORK DEPLOYMENT

The established historiography presumes that the purpose of the selections was to find the inmates who were incapable to work in order to subsequently kill (gas) them. But Frau Schindler's statements support the revisionist thesis that the purpose of the selections was to assemble work forces, which were then mostly transferred to other concentration and work camps. According to her report, the selection were used to transfer herself



Layout of the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Frau Schindler was in one of the barracks of the camp section BIIf (near the pond at crematorium IV), when buses or trucks passed by on the road running between crematoria IV and V (KIV, KV). Whether the buses drove to crematorium IV or V or to the central sauna (marked with S) is not clear.

and other employable inmates to the Stutthof camp or Korben camp.

This confirms the findings of Pressac, who discovered that a significant number of Auschwitz inmates were not gassed after the selection, but were transferred to Stutthof.³ There were probably still many more of such heretofore undiscovered inmate transfers to other camps, which were so far falsely interpreted as selections for the “gas chambers”.

Mrs. Schindler herself discloses the false connection of the selection for the transfer to other camps and alleged gassings, which looked like a “disappearance without a trace” to the inmates who stayed behind:

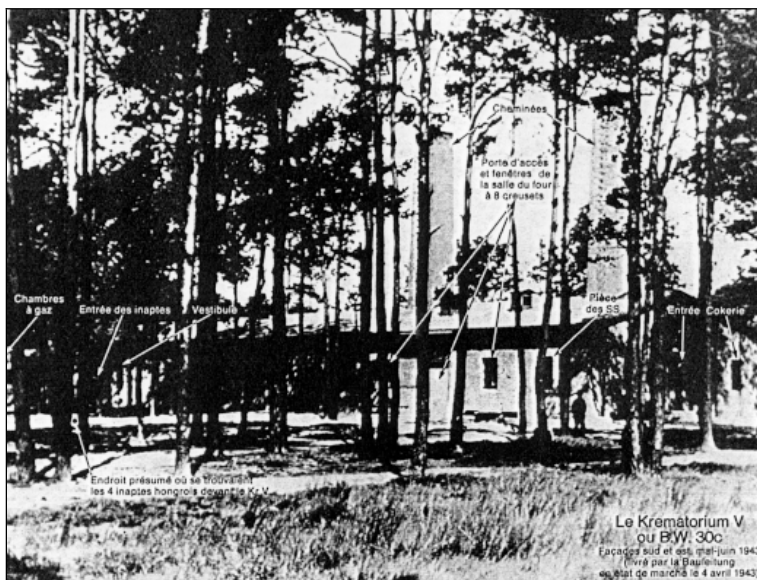
“[...] during the next gassing, when employables were transferred to work in other camps.”

And Mrs. Schindler even gives us a hint as to how the rumor of the “gas chambers” started: She herself was selected and had to walk afterwards naked into a shower, because she evidently had to undergo the usual hygienic procedure before her transport to the Stutthof camp. How would the inmates that stayed in the camp have interpreted this scene: Mrs. Schindler is selected with many other inmates and leaves her barrack with all her goods. She walks naked into a shower and does not return to the barrack. “Was she gassed?”, asked the ones who stayed behind scarily themselves. Since many inmates in war and concentration camps develop a camp psychosis, which finds an expression in wild fantasies and rampant rumors, it is easily explainable how such untenable stories originate in this manner.

TESTIMONY FROM HEARSAY

In her second letter, Mrs. Schindler describes in detail the procedure of the alleged homicidal killings at that time. Upon rereading the letter of her correspondent she is reminded to differentiate between what she experienced herself and what is hearsay, and she makes a significant addition: She herself never saw a gas chamber nor observed a gassing from a distance. The only thing she can report on are buses or trucks which disappeared in the darkness of the night in the direction of a crematorium or the central sauna, and her own walk into a shower after her selection.

Frau Schindler’s reference to Willi Brachmann, who unfortunately already died, reminds one of the experiences of Paul Rassinier and Robert Faurisson, who very frequently, when they questioned alleged witnesses about the gas chambers, received the answer that the witnesses themselves did not see such things, but that this or the



A view of crematorium V. Crematoria IV and V were situated in a wooded area of the camp. Mrs. Schindler could from her place in the hospital actually only observe the buses or trucks “disappear”, but not where the people were actually taken and what happened to them.

other credible, absolutely reliable friend, who unfortunately already died, reported this to him.

Her references to the books by Hermann Langbein and Eugen Kogon are finally a strong indication of what material she used to supplement her own memories with, where the interpretations originate, which she merges with her own experiences. That these reports of hearsay are furthermore verifiably false (i.e. the flaming chimney stacks) is only mentioned as an aside.

However, she does not notice that her experiences prove exactly the opposite of what she learned from the literature and from acquaintances with other even prominent “survivors.” She could actually discover a good part of the whole truth from the many individual, strong facts of her own memory. But she does not see the forest for the trees because of the massive propaganda of her environment.

Notes

First published as “Auschwitz: Die Paradoxie der Erlebnisse”, in *Vierteljahresshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 1(3) (1997), pp. 195-199.

¹ See C. Jordan in Germar Rudolf (ed.), *Dissecting the Holocaust*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL, 2003

² W. Stromberger, “Was war die ‘Sonderbehandlung’ in Auschwitz?,” *Deutschland in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, 1996, 44(2), S. 24f.; Carlo Mattogno, *Special Treatment in Auschwitz*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004.

³ J.-C. Pressac, *Die Krematorien von Auschwitz*, Piper, München 1994; for more details see C. Mattogno, J. Graf, *Concentration Camp Stutthof*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003.

Reality and *Wirklichkeit*

Objective and Subjective Reality

By Ernst Manon

Between 1996 and 2000, “span-the-gap” articles by various authors have appeared in small German periodicals.¹ These articles attempt to build a bridge between the camp of Holocaust researchers who are objective and reality-oriented in their approach, and the more orthodox researchers who are subjective and perception-oriented. The authors have attended numerous Holocaust trials and obtained a realistic picture of what goes on there, but they still urge understanding for those who cannot tolerate objective reality. These individuals live in a world which is very different from that of the scientific camp, a world they have created for themselves within an alternative reality.² Hostility prevails between the camps on account of their differing basic attitudes, which is in fact a confrontation between Natural Science and Natural Religion, or, between objective reality and Jungian *Wirklichkeit*.³ In Jung’s usage, *Wirklichkeit*, “das, was wirkt” means something which creates an effect, result, or impression. (No single English word translates *Wirklichkeit*.)

In the revisionist camp, there are mostly exact scientists, engineers, and other reality-oriented persons; when they encounter their counterparts from the other camp, there are often angry misunderstandings, which can split families, friendships, even generations. As an illustration of the reality-oriented person, let us take a mechanical engineer who is given the task of developing a new motor. Applying natural laws and his professional expertise, he carefully makes drawings and then constructs a prototype. Lo and behold, the new motor works as designed. As Damian points out, Reality and *Wirklichkeit* are in agreement here. There are no grounds for conflict.

Why is the situation so different when we are dealing with the Reality/*Wirklichkeit* complex in a philosophical or religious context? Why must there be discord between reality and its effects? Isn’t it conceivable that matters, which are subjective by nature, that is, matters whose reality is *perceived* rather than matters whose reality is *independent of mind* (such as myths, legends, religions, world views, ideologies, or whatever we want to call them) could exist in accord with objective realities, or at least not in fundamental contradiction to them?

Psychologically speaking, two opposing tendencies can be distinguished here. One is man’s desire to bring his concept of the world into accord with the actual world

itself. When this is not possible, the distressing phenomenon occurs which Leon Festinger calls “Cognitive Dissonance” in his theory of that name. The struggle to overcome Cognitive Dissonance is synonymous with research enlightenment and empirical knowledge. The other tendency is the attempt to escape a reality, which is unacceptable or perceived as unacceptable, and create a refuge from the vicissitudes of life, perhaps even to master life itself. Who can truthfully say that, given certain circumstances, he would completely reject such strategies for dealing with “the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune?” Catastrophe, illness, sorrow, death, the sense of meaninglessness, and, not least, the recognition that justice does not always prevail have always driven man to seek such solutions. The common denominator in this complex of problems is perhaps the anxiety inherent in life itself. Not everyone is able to perceive that, as Kant put it:⁴

“As for the failures of philosophical attempts at Theodicy, the problem is caused by asking the wrong question.”

Spinoza elaborated on the problem in these words:⁵

“How presumptuously foolish man is! His presumptuousness results from his lack of a correct concept of both god and nature, which causes him to confuse god’s dispensations with those of mortal man. This in turn causes man to believe that nature is so limited that he is its most excellent part.”

Maimonides was of the same opinion.⁶

“The source of error is that the ignorant man, along with his ilk throughout the masses, judges the universal according to the standard of the human individual. Every ignorant man imagines that the entire universe exists only for his individual self, as though no other beings existed. When events occur against his wishes, the ignorant man concludes that existence is filled with evil. But if these people would consider the entire universe, and consider what an insignificant part they are, the truth would be revealed to them.”

Again, we have two fundamentally opposed strategies for dealing with the problem posed by Kant, Spinoza, and Maimonides. One strategy consists of methods of consolation: ostensible explanations, avoidance, denial, and, last but not least, the various religions. The other strategy

involves the use of paradox. For example, someone afflicted with existential anxiety might be able to cope with it by “cultivating” it, in a sense; “*das Übel an die Wand malen*” (“painting the evil on the wall.”)

Paradox as Therapy

This is a psychological trick for coping with fear. In 1928, Ossip Mandelstam wrote about his technique for exorcising anxiety by telling himself:⁷

“Anxiety has taken my hand, is leading me by the hand. A white knitted glove, a mitten with no fingers. I love and adore anxiety. I almost said: When anxiety is with me I need have no fear.”

The poet and psychiatrist Ernst Augustin wrote in one of his novels that “Schizophrenia is nothing more than fear of existing.” He depicts schizophrenia as the partitioning of the interior and exterior worlds; indeed, it is the *conditio humana*.⁸

An old proverb tells us that we should not “paint the devil on the wall.” With this trick however, we are attempting just the opposite; we have a paradoxical intention. It is not surprising that it was a Jewish physician and psychiatrist, Viktor Frankel, who made it a therapeutic concept. One of his best examples was the case of a patient who began sweating when he shook hands with his supervisor. He would expect to break out in a sweat when he had to shake hands again, and the very anxiety of expectation contributed to driving the sweat of fear from his pores. Frankel advised his patient to deliberately try to sweat in front of the supervisor; thus the “wind was taken from the sails” of his anxiety. This is a very congenial method since one can apply it to childhood traumas without a therapist and thus avoid the cost of treatment.⁹

“The patient needs to objectify his neurosis and distance himself from it. He should learn to look his anxiety in the face, even to laugh in its face. [...] Nothing allows the patient to distance himself from himself as does humor.”

We all know that it is not advisable to tell a performing artist “good luck!” or wish him success before a public appearance. Instead of this we say, “Break a leg!” Before any risky undertaking, we tell ourselves that it is bound to fail. The performer is said to have stage fright; he fears that he will fail and suffer ignominy. The pictorial artist is afraid he will literally fall from his scaffold and break his neck or leg.¹⁰ By clearly stating, even ritually *wishing* for the cause of anxiety to occur, “the wind is taken from the sails” of one’s anxiety in a parodistic manner. One feels free and unburdened.

The point to be made is that a person suffering from existential anxiety should avoid repressing it. He should imagine it, fantasize it, and keep it in mind so as to effec-

tively banish it. However, the goal is healing, not adopting a lifestyle of anxiety obsession. Such is the case when the Jews say “In every generation THEY try to annihilate us.” Or when Hitler is depicted as the embodiment of Haman, or Germans as Amalek, in order to help the Jews cope with their identity problems.

Michael Wolffsohn, Jewish historian at the University of the German Armed Forces in Neubiberg near Munich, acknowledges:¹¹

“It is part of the tragic absurdity of Diaspora Jewish existence that, for nonreligious Jews, only the Holocaust can compensate for Jewish nada or nothingness (existential anxiety.) Thus it remains the sole support of Jewish identity.[...] The Holocaust memory of the nonreligious Jews, the majority, has far reaching consequences for the relationship of most Jews to Germany. They assume that the Federal Republic of Germany is still the same old National Socialist Germany with its homicidal attitude toward Jews. This is not real Germanophobia or hatred of Germans as such, but rather a desperate and understandable search for Jewish identity.”

Alain Finkelkraut goes a step further and speaks of role reversal:¹²

“In an age when people live hand to mouth and without spiritual perspective, Judaism appears to offer an enviable justification for existence [...] while the average man, the pointlessly meandering Goy, has become a rootless, homeless, philosemitic man without characteristics.”

Also in this vein:¹³

“At the end of the 20th Century, how sweet it is to be a Jew! We are no longer the villains of history – we have become history’s darlings.”

A more dangerous method of seeking “salvation from evil” is to jump into the abyss. In *Psyche und Erlösung*, Siegmund Hurwitz writes:¹⁴

“The heretical Cabalists of the Sabbatical Movement evolved the theory that before one can achieve salvation, one must have sinned first. They based their theory on the familiar Bible quotation ‘Thou shalt love thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and all thy strength.’ An ancient Bible commentary, the Sifrê, as well as the Talmud (Babylonian Talmud, Berakot Tract 9.5) had interpreted ‘all’ to mean that it is possible to serve God not only with good impulses, but with bad impulses as well. The heretical cabalists methodically formulated and followed such ideas to a logical conclusion. Like the followers of the gnostic Karpokrates in the first half of the Second Century A.D., they credited their master with the conclusion that ‘Ye can receive absolution only for sins which ye

commit.’ [What seductive logic they used to arrive at the conclusion that one must first sin in order to be forgiven and saved from eternal damnation!] *The gravity of the sins which the Redeemer takes upon himself is a precise criterion of His blessedness. The only differences of opinion that exist among his followers concern whether the commission of such sins is reserved for the Messiah alone, or whether they may be committed by his followers as well.*”

Referring to the “Brothers of the Free Spirit,” who revered this principle, Caesarius von Heisterbach announced as early as 1222:¹⁵

“He who lives in the lap of the Holy Ghost can commit every sin, because God also resides therein and He can not sin.”

The Frankists, who were the successors to the Sabbatians in the 18th Century, likewise cherished the “felix culpa” or holy sins, which in their case took the form of ritual libertinism. They relied upon a capricious interpretation of Psalms 146: “Praise the Lord, who permits everything that is forbidden.” For them, everything was allowed including lying and adultery. All morality was perverted into the opposite of itself as truth became absurdity. Some of Jakob Frank’s mottoes were:

“Cast away all that you have learned;

Trample upon all the laws you have been taught and obey no one but me;

Everything which I reject will pass away;

I was sent to destroy everything;

How could God tolerate a world filled with death and misery?

This contradicts His omnipotence... no, the creator of this world can not be the true God!”

The religious rites of the Frankists consisted of ecstatic singing and dancing accompanied by wild clapping of hands. They were similar to the rites of the Chassids and Chlysten of old Russia (as described by Geißler) except that women were allowed to participate. The ceremonies ended with everyone’s disrobing and indulging in sex orgies. In view of the passionate nihilism of the Frankists, Arthur Mandel (the author reporting) was reminded of the speeches, language and customs of our Rebels of ‘68.¹⁶ In Walter Laqueur’s writings as well, we are reminded that Sabbatianist ideas are not restricted to the past:¹⁷

“The Godhood (Schechina) manifests itself in every activity of man, even in his sins.”

What Was Hatched in Viennese Coffee Houses

The following sentences from an article by Ilona Duczynska, the wife of Karl Polanyi and an “apostolic member” of a Communist circle, are taken from *The Commu-*

nist International by Franz Borkenau, published in England in 1939:¹⁸

“A theoretician, who was perhaps the only real thinker in Hungarian Communism, gave this answer to my question as whether Party leaders were allowed to deceive and mislead their fellow party members. He said that Communist ethics acknowledged the necessity of doing evil as their highest duty. He explained that this was the greatest sacrifice which the Revolution demanded of its followers [...] and said the true Communist was convinced that the dialectic of history would transform evil into good.”

Borkenau had himself been a Communist and was giving a glimpse of that secret indoctrination which justified abandoning normal human understanding and conventional morality. It still exerts a lingering fascination on Western intellectuals. To the esoteric elite, it offered the intoxicating vision of the blessed moment following the “Last Things.” This dialectical theory of evil was never openly stated in so many words, but the communistic gospel spread as secret insight from mouth to mouth until its adherents finally recognized the real measure of a “true Communist.” The theory began with an obscure Communist movement of “about 30 persons, sitting around Viennese coffeehouses.”

According to Borkenau, the theoretician of the group was named Georg Lukács. His father was the very wealthy owner of a textile factory named József Löwinger from the South Szeged region in South Hungary, who began calling himself “von Lukács” after obtaining a nobility patent in 1901. His mother derived from one of the oldest and wealthiest Jewish families in Eastern Europe, a family which had produced several of the best known Talmudic scholars and rabbis. George despised her on account of her grand bourgeois affectation and vast possessions; even in elite high school he had been fascinated by Franciscan poverty. The suicide of the artist Irma Seiler, on whom he had a mighty crush, was a decisive turning point in his life. Tormented by the idea that he was a great sinner, he found refuge in Dostoyevsky who taught him that a virtuous life presupposes purity of soul, but that one can achieve salvation through sin. Furthermore he was fascinated by Fichte’s philosophy of history. He often spoke of Fichte, “who said that Mankind must pass through the age of absolute sinfulness on the way to salvation. This age is now at hand; and whoever hesitates to obey the command of the age does not avoid sin, but rather avoids the only path which delivers us from sin.”

Lukács joined the Hungarian Communist Party around the end of 1918. He had accomplished “the leap across the abyss of faith” which leads to “metamorphosis of the

entirety of a man's existence." This great leap brought forth a large group of "virtuosos of political morality" whose lives oscillated constantly between sin and enlightenment. They lived in constant and terrible uncertainty as to whether salvation or damnation awaited them at the end. When Lukács embraced Communism, he was aware "that he was choosing sin, because Man could achieve salvation only through Sin. Sin was Power."¹⁹ At the end of his essay "Tactics and Ethics," which he wrote shortly after joining the Party, he wrote:

"To commit murder is forbidden. Murder is an absolute and unforgivable sin; it is most certainly not allowed. And yet it has to be done. In other words, only the unflinching murderous activity of Man who knows beyond all doubt that murder is not to be condoned under any circumstances, can be truly and tragically moral."

These ideas go directly back to Lukács' lectures on the writings of Boris Sawinkow, the terrorist leader of the Social Revolutionary Party. Writing under the pseudonym of V. Ropschin, Sawinkow had published the autobiographical novel *Konj Blednyj* (The White Horse) in 1909. For him, terrorism was an act of love, a deed which, like the resurrection of Jesus, would culminate in "Socialism, and the advent of Paradise on Earth." When Lukács was appointed Peoples' Commissar for Education, he declared his goal to be to "revolutionize the human spirit." Later, as political commissar of the Fifth Division, he once had eight soldiers of the Red Army shot for desertion. "With this, order was by and large restored," he wrote. In his novel *Magic Mountain* (1924), Thomas Mann developed a riveting portrait of Lukács in a disguised form. It is the character of Leo Naphtas, the Jewish-Jesuit revolutionary who horrifies the liberal Settembrini by cold-bloodedly praising Terror as the means of liberating the epoch from its infantile liberalist faith in the Good.²⁰

Lukács was probably familiar with Dostoyevsky's novel *The Demons* as well. In the character of the revolutionary Pjotr Werkowjenski, the poet gives us a portrait of Sergej Netschajew, who developed a catechism for revolutionaries in 1869. An excerpt:²¹

"The revolutionary is consecrated. For him there are no personal interests, business affairs, emotions, or human bonds. He possesses nothing at all, not even a real name. His soul is completely captivated by a single exclusive interest, thought and passion: Revolution! [...] Deep in his heart, he has dissolved all the ties that bind one to civilization and the bourgeois order. He has severed all connections with laws, conveniences, conventions, morality and conventions that have validity in this world; and not just verbally, but

absolutely. He is the irreconcilable enemy of the bourgeois world; and if he continues living in it, it is only to destroy it. [...] A Revolutionary participates in the life of the State and its economic classes (the so-called civilized world) and exists in its surroundings, only because he believes in its imminent and total destruction. If he is attached to anything whatsoever in the bourgeois world, he is not a true Revolutionary. [...] Our entire unsavory society is divided into several categories, the first of which consists of those who are condemned to death without hesitation. [...] The second category includes those who are provisionally allowed to live so that they, with their monstrous deeds and dealings, will drive the masses to the inevitable uprising."

Lukács characterized the concept of "messianic utopianism" as "out-hegeling Hegel," an intellectual concept which boldly rose up against all existing reality and attempted to outdo the master.²² According to Courtois, the Utopian's will to apply a doctrine which has no relationship to reality was the real motive for Lenin's terror as well, in which he adopted and further developed the model of Netschajew.²³ Was Lukács familiar with the story of Sabbatai Zwi, the false Messiah of the 17th century who made a political program of his motto "Salvation through Sin," or with that of Jakob Frank, Zwi's successor in the 18th Century? Or Karpokrates?

Nonreligious Jews

Boris Sawinkow's paradoxical idea about murder – that it is not allowed and yet has to be, and is therefore moral in a genuinely tragic sense – is also found in the writing of Rudolf Bienenfeld. On the eve of the Second World War he depicted the spiritual state of nonreligious Jews, in which certain fundamental ideas of Jewish religion are unconsciously passed on to succeeding generations, as follows:²⁴

"It is an unprovable conviction that under no conditions is aerial bombardment of undefended civilian population allowable... but it is also an article of faith, opposing and equally indisputable, that such a crime is allowable if the bombardment serves the prestige of the mother country."

The spiritual existence of the Jewish individual is built on maxims such as these. He finds them so self-evident that he can have no doubts about them; so convincing that he can accept no evidence to the contrary. Bienenfeld gave this candid description of Jewish mentality in a lecture before the Jewish Society for Sociology and Anthropology in Vienna on 10th November 1937, even pointing out to his audience that it was the birthday of Friedrich Schiller. At that time, who would have believed that two

million tons of aerial bombs would soon be dropped on German cities, specifically targeting working-class neighborhoods, in order to bolster the prestige of various motherlands – including one which did not yet exist?

“Words Can Kill” (Michel Friedman)

Jakob Pinchas Kohn, rabbi and Doctor of Philosophy from Leipzig, wrote in the Jewish Encyclopedia for 1927:²⁵

“Calumny is strictly forbidden in the Bible (Lev. 9, 16). [...] Like a red thread, this warning against the greatest of crimes makes its way through the Talmud. According to Arach 15b and j. Pea 15d, it surpasses even the three deadly sins. [...] Calumny surpasses all other types of weapons which kill only in close proximity; it is like the arrow, which kills at a distance as well. Such is the slanderer: he kills in Syria while speaking in Rome. [...] Life and death are within the power of the tongue (Spr. 18, 21). In other words: just as the hand kills, so can the tongue.”

Surely the slandering of the German nation belongs to the most monstrous atrocities carried over from the past century to the present. Surely the previously discussed paradox is applicable here: Under no circumstances can it be done – but it is done nevertheless. If one continues the calumnies long enough, the very victims join in and slander themselves. In the words of the “cultural scientist” Aleida Assmann of the University of Constance:²⁶

“The more clearly we state that we are not normal and erect this Holocaust] monument in Berlin, the sooner we can proceed with normalization.”

According to Paul Spiegel, the Holocaust monument erected in the heart of Berlin was not promoted by Jews.

Alexander Mitscherlich had formulated his support for anti-German calumnies in these words:²⁷

“Understating our guilt can not be our approach, because only when we have strength to consciously surmount our guilt will we enjoy respect.”

Obviously this contradicts the Christian exhortation to “Love thy neighbor as thyself,” since he who hates himself can have no love for others.

The Jewish revisionist writer Joseph Burg (Ginsburg), who died in 1990, had a more healthy conception of the relationship of reality and *Wirklichkeit*:²⁸

“It is a fact that I am not a German, but a Jew. But, if the German nation insists on living with charges of six million gassed Jews, then I as a Jew feel uncomfortable in my skin. [...] When people nowadays speak of ‘Nazi atrocities,’ it is merely the age-old tactic of the clever thief. If six million Jews really were gassed, then the Zionist leaders would have had to be the first ones brought before the judge, since they bear

the principal guilt for the war and the so-called ‘Final Solution’ to the Jewish problem. Neither the Nazis nor the German people bear the principal guilt for the Jewish debacle.”

Today Burg’s writings are outlawed in Germany.

Ephraim Kishon, German’s best-known Jewish humorist, represents the politically-correct position:²⁹

“I am a Jew. I am nationalistic, extremist, chauvinistic, and militaristic. Anybody who does not like that does not have to read my books. About our insolence? We have no alternative since we are condemned to death. When the Arabs have wiped us out, there will be demonstrations in front of their embassies. That is all there will be! The governments of the world should not give us good advice, they should give us gunboats. Whoever is anti-Israeli is anti-Semitic. That is the two-thousand-year-old answer to the problem.”

If a group of people feel comfortable in a perverse, schizophrenic and death-oriented dream world which serves them as a substitute for reality, that is a matter for them alone. It is a different matter to impose such a dream world on others, however, and I speak not only for the Germans. This can not possibly turn out well.

Were the effects of the anti-German calumnies planned? Michael Wolffsohn’s cryptic “Thesis No. 8 Concerning German-Israeli Relations” gives us food for thought:³⁰

“The business of mourning was carried out and is still being carried out, and this is necessary. Its duration must be limited, however. Otherwise, collective therapy would be required.”

How very different conditions in Germany would be if a man such as Joseph Ginsburg were chairman of the German Central Jewish Committee – assuming that institution were even needed then!

Let us briefly refer back to Damian’s article (our first footnote) and consider these three points:

1. Surely it is clear what Popper would have thought about forbidden theories and illicit pedagogical opinions (page 386). In his “Critical Rationalism,” Sir Karl, whose parents were baptized Jews, sets forth the basic philosophy for revisionism. A great many people have not yet realized this. At any rate, Popper gave us the basis for a permanent revisionism, which constantly exposes our own views and knowledge to renewed critique. Unfortunately he has not done justice to his own postulation, as I know from a reliable source. It would have created a worldwide sensation if the best-known and most prominent Jewish philosopher of his day had expressed himself in a manner consistent with his own philosophy.
2. When the author writes that money belongs to every

action, in order to justify never-ending retribution payments whose questionable basis he himself acknowledges, then he is lacking in both fairness and consistency.

3. The Grand Inquisitor was himself a Jew, as was Ferdinand II through his mother.³¹ A comparable personality was Lazar Moissejevitch Kaganovitch in the 20th Century. The Jew as Ultimate Jew-hater! Here the crux of a series of articles entitled "The Jews and Their Environment," edited by Johann Maier and published by Peter Lang, is quite informative.³²

"In an unproblematic environment, when tensions are lacking and assimilation is under way, cross currents arise from Judaism itself, which have the effect of ethnic or religious profiling in order to achieve self assertion."

The problem of the environment itself might also be considered in this light!

Notes

First published as "Realität und Wirklichkeit," in *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 5(2) (2001), pp. 209-214. Translated by James M. Damon.

- ¹ Frederick E. Peterman, "Plädoyer für Toleranz," *Staatsbriefe* 7(9-10) (1996), pp. 30-34; Rolf Wiesenberger, "Grenzen der Naturwissenschaft," *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 3(3) (1999), pp. 298-307; Peter Damian, "Freiheit und Wahrheit vor Gericht," *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 4(3&4) (2000), pp. 385-393.
- ² P. Damian, *ibidi.*, p. 392
- ³ *Ibid.*, p. 391.
- ⁴ Kant's 1791 essay of the same name in: *Immanuel Kants Sämtliche Werke*, vol. 6, Verlag der Dürr'schen Buchhandlung, Leipzig 1930/31.
- ⁵ Carl Gebhardt, Günter Gawlick (eds.), *Theologisch-politischer Traktat, Sämtliche Werke*, vol. 3, Felix Meiner, Hamburg 1994, p. 94.
- ⁶ More Nebuchim III 12, quoted in *Anmerkungen zu Spinozas Traktat*, p. 337.
- ⁷ "Die ägyptische Briefmarke", from: "Ralph Dutli zum 100. Geburtstag von Nadeschda Mandelstam," *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, October 28, 1999, p. 62.
- ⁸ Michael Allmaier, "Die Angst zu existieren" in: *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, October 31, 1997.
- ⁹ *Theorie und Therapie der Neurosen*, 4th Edition, Ernst Reinhardt, Munich 1975, pp. 161f.
- ¹⁰ This expression is said to be a Yiddish spoonerism, letters to the editor, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Sept. 25, Oct. 13, 1999.
- ¹¹ In: *Internationale Politik*, issue 8/1998; from: *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, October 29, 1998, p. 45.
- ¹² *Der eingebildete Jude*, Hanser, Munich/Vienna 1982, p. 107.
- ¹³ *Le Monde*, 7th October 1998, p. 14: "Ah, qu'il est doux d'être juif en cette fin de XXe siècle! Nous ne sommes plus les accusés de l'Histoire, nous en sommes les chouchous."
- ¹⁴ 1st Edition, Daimon, Zürich 1983, pp. 82f.
- ¹⁵ Josef Leo Seifert, *Sinnbedeutung des Mythos – Die Trinität in den Mythen der Urvölker*, Herold, Vienna/Munich 1954, p. 79.
- ¹⁶ *The Militant Messiah or The Flight from the Ghetto - The Story of*

Jacob Frank and the Frankist Movement, Peter Bergman, Bethlehem, Connecticut, 1979, pp. 39ff.

- ¹⁷ *Der Weg zum Staate Israel - Geschichte des Zionismus*, Europaverlag, Vienna 1972, p. 79, quoted in Wolfgang Borowski, *Die neue Welt - Vorspiel der Hölle*, Anton A. Schmid, Durach 1995, p. 81.
- ¹⁸ According to Daniel Bell, Harvard-Professor Emeritus for Sociology, born 1919 in New York: "Durch die Sünde zur Erlösung" in: *Die Zeit*, Sept. 18, 1992.
- ¹⁹ István Eörsi, *Tage mit Gombrowicz*, Leipzig 1997, pp. 90f., according to Steffen Dietzsch, *Kleine Kulturgeschichte der Lüge*, Reclam, Leipzig 1998, p. 146.
- ²⁰ According to Daniel Bell, op. cit. (note 18), up to the quotation by Eörsi, Lukács' Biographer.
- ²¹ According to S. Courtois, *Das Schwarzbuch des Kommunismus. Unterdrückung, Verbrechen und Terror*, Munich, 1998, p. 798.
- ²² In: "Geschichte und Klassenbewußtsein", in: *Werke*, vol. 2, Neuwied-Berlin 1968, preface p. 25; according to Ernst Topitsch, *Erkenntnis und Illusion - Grundstrukturen unserer Weltauffassung*, 2nd ed., Mohr/Siebeck, Tübingen 1988, p. 221.
- ²³ S. Courtois, op. cit. (note 21), p. 805.
- ²⁴ *Die Religion der religionslosen Juden*, 1939; 2nd ed., Wilhelm Frick, Vienna 1955, p. 13.
- ²⁵ "Verleumdung" in: *Jüdisches Lexikon*, Vol. IV, pp. 1192f.
- ²⁶ In: *Die Zeit*, December 3, 1998, pp. 43f.; quoted in: Wilfried Scharf, Martina Thiele, "Die publizistische Kontroverse über Martin Walsers Friedenspreisrede" in: *Deutsche Studien* 142, Vol. 2/1999, p. 175.
- ²⁷ Quoted in Luise Jodl, *Jenseits des Endes*, Fritz Molden, Vienna 1976, p. 202
- ²⁸ *Maidanek in alle Ewigkeit?*, Ederer, Munich 1979, p. 19.
- ²⁹ In an Interview with Herbert D. Glattauer in the *Wiener Kurier*, October 25, 1976.
- ³⁰ "Deutschland, Israel und die 'Wiedergutmachung'" in: Julius H. Schoeps (ed.), *Neues Lexikon des Judentums*, Bertelsmann, Gütersloh/Munich 1998, p. 864.
- ³¹ From Roger Peyrefitte: *Die Juden*, Stahlberg, Karlsruhe 1966.
- ³² S. Stuart Kahan: *The Wolf of the Kremlin*, William Morrow, New York 1987.

The Elusive Holes of Death

By Germar Rudolf

On August 28, 2002, Sven Felix Kellerhoff of the German daily newspaper *Die Welt* expressed his anger about the semi-revisionist theories of Fritjof Meyer, a leading editor of Germany's largest news magazines *Der Spiegel*. In 2002, Meyer had published an article, in which he reduced the death toll of Auschwitz down to half a million victims, and also decommissioned the gas chambers that were allegedly located in the crematoria of Auschwitz.¹ Kellerhoff called Meyer a "crown witness" for the "Holocaust deniers." *The Revisionist* has thoroughly covered the controversy ignited by Meyer from a revisionist perspective.² In early 2004, Meyer himself made an end – perhaps only temporarily so – to this public exchange. In an Open Letter of February 12, 2004, he declared, i.a.:³

"Now the impression grows that they ["right-wing radicals" or "Auschwitz deniers"] could succeed to instrumentalize my theses: for a propaganda of minimization. I therefore do not wish to continue this debate in this forum."

In the following sentence, Meyer's mask drops, and he reveals himself as the left-wing extremist he is, who is promoting the use of violence as a means of solving conflicts:

"Considering the current dangers in Italy, France, Russia, and the U.S., it remains true that the fascists need to be beaten up wherever one encounters them."

With this statement, Meyer has discredited himself utterly as a partner for any future discussion. But that does not, of course, mean that the entire discussion has ended with this epilogue. One of the most ambitious opponents of revisionism, John C. Zimmerman,⁴ assistant professor for book keeping (sic!) at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, has criticized Meyer's theses harshly.⁵

But the latest attack against revisionists came again from the above mentioned Sven Felix Kellerhoff, published in *Die Welt* of August 23, 2004. Under the headline "The Holes of Death", he quotes Robert Faurisson's provocative quip "No holes, no Holocaust" and writes:

"The French revisionist Robert Faurisson repeats it over and over again; David Irving also used it in this sense. Despite the uncouth nature of this quip, the core of it is the question whether or not each of the smaller basement rooms of the crematoria II and III in the extermination camp Birkenau was used as a gas chamber."

In the larger basement room, situated along the axis of the crematorium building above ground, the victims had to undress before they were pressed, sometimes up to 1000 of them, into the small basement room of some 210 square meters, which was perpendicular to the other. Then SS men threw the poison, hydrogen cyanide bound on diatomaceous earth (Zyklon B), through openings in the ceiling into wire mesh columns in the basement. Within half an hour, the hydrogen cyanide evaporated due to the heat of the bodies and killed every human life."

The question of the alleged misuse of the basement rooms of crematoria II & III in the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp for mass murder with poison gas is in the very focus of revisionist discussion on the Holocaust. Many monographs and papers appeared about it,⁶ one of which was solely dedicated to discuss the issue of the Zyklon B introduction holes.⁷ Kellerhoff's summary of the revisionist viewpoint puts it well:

"Faurisson, Irving & Co. claim that there were no openings in the roof. Therefore, no Zyklon B could have been thrown into the murder chambers. Hence, the Holocaust is an invention."

Subsequently, however, Kellerhoff dares treading on the minefield of evidence, where he exposes his lack of competence when claiming, "a photo taken during the construction of the murder plant and two air photos taken by the Allies in August 1944" prove the existence of introduction holes. But this is definitely not the case, as I have repeatedly shown.⁸ Kellerhoff's claim is based upon a false interpretation of these pictures, a fact which is admitted even by adherents of the gas chamber theses.⁹

The total lack of documents for the existence of these introduction holes as well as the total lack of any physical trace of these holes in the roof of the ruins of crematorium II in Birkenau, as it has been claimed for decades by revisionists, forced the Holocausters finally to tackle the issue. Sven Kellerhoff gladly announces the result of such research:

"In the journal 'Holocaust and Genocide Studies,' three coworkers of the research network 'Holocaust History Project'¹⁰ exhaustingly clarify the question of the holes in the roof. Daniel Keren, Jamie McCarthy, and Henry W. Mazal have investigated the ruins of both gas chambers in Birkenau as well as the gas chamber in the Auschwitz main camp."

Their result matches exactly the circumstantial evidence known and preserved so far: the smaller basement room of crematorium II had four openings in its roof measuring roughly 60 centimeters in square. [...] The U.S. scientist could identify three of four openings in the ruins, the fourth is covered by debris. All alleged 'arguments' of the Auschwitz deniers are thus refuted on the basis of physically provable facts: The smaller basement rooms of both crematorium buildings were equipped with gas chambers and were used as such to kill hundreds of thousands of human beings. The case of the openings in the roof of the gas chamber in the crematorium of the main camp is a little more complicated. [...]

As indicated above, the crematorium in the main camp is not the only case that is a little more complicated than Kellerhof suggests. A final answer to this question will be given only after the arguments of both sides have been weighed objectively, something that Kellerhoff, with his dogmatic attitude, will probably never accept.

It is already indicative that the three authors mentioned by Kellerhoff – Keren, McCarthy, and Mazal – have never published before in the field of Holocaust research. They also refused to even take notice of a thorough study on this issue by revisionist scholar Carlo Mattogno,⁷ which had been published in English on the internet as early as 2002.¹¹ Hence, Keren, McCarthy, and Mazal did not weigh arguments, but confirmed prejudices, which quickly gained the predicate of “scientific self-evidentness” by the Holocaust lobby by virtue of having it published in the most renowned journal these genocide researchers have at their hands.

In the following, we give the word to the world’s unchallenged expert on Auschwitz, Carlo Mattogno. This may result in Kellerhoff and his “hole heroes” losing their wits, which in turn might lead to them resorting to character assassination, something they are good at, since they have exercised it before.¹²

In concluding I may state that this episode in the controversy over the Holocaust between revisionists and exterminationists proves – to quote Galileo Galilei freely: Something moves after all!

The discussion about the reality of Holocaust claims, which the establishment wants to suppress so badly, is already going on. It has hit the scholarly journals of the establishment. There is no way back anymore, because we revisionists won’t let go! *The Revisionist* is at the utmost forefront of this ongoing debate, and you as our readers

have the privilege to sit in the first row when historians make history!

Notes

- ¹ F. Meyer, “Die Zahl der Opfer von Auschwitz. Neue Erkenntnisse durch neue Archivfunde,” in: *Osteuropa. Zeitschrift für Gegenwartsfragen des Ostens*, No. 5, May 2002, pp. 631-641; for an English translation see online www.vho.org/GB/c/Meyer.html.
- ² Germar Rudolf, “Cautious Mainstream Revisionism,” *TR* 1(1) (2003), pp. 23-30; Carlo Mattogno, “Auschwitz. Fritjof Meyer’s New Revisions,” *ibid.*, pp. 30-37; Mattogno, “The Four Million Figure of Auschwitz,” *TR* 1(4) (2003); pp. 387-392; Jürgen Graf, “‘Just Call Me Meyer’ – A Farewell to ‘Obviousness’,” *TR* 2(2) (2004), pp. 127-130; C. Mattogno, “On the Piper-Meyer-Controversy: Soviet Propaganda vs. Pseudo-Revisionism,” *ibid.*, pp. 131-139.
- ³ www.idgr.de/texte/geschichte/ns-verbrechen/fritjof-meyer/meyer-040212.php
- ⁴ Cf. his book *Holocaust Denial. Demographics, Testimonies, and Ideologies*, University Press of America, Lanham, MD, 2000; cf. also the critique by C. Mattogno: “John C. Zimmerman and Body Disposal at Auschwitz: Preliminary Observations,” online: www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/jcz.html; “Supplementary Response to John C. Zimmerman on his ‘Body Disposal at Auschwitz’,” online: www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/Risposta-new-eng.html.
- ⁵ John C. Zimmerman, “Fritjof Meyer and the number of Auschwitz victims: a critical analysis,” *Journal of Genocide Research*, 6(2) (2004), pp. 249-266. See my review of Zimmerman’s paper in this issue.
- ⁶ Cf. especially Carlo Mattogno, “The Morgues of the Crematoria at Birkenau in the Light of Documents,” *TR* 2(3) (2004), pp. 271-294.
- ⁷ Carlo Mattogno, “Keine Löcher, keine Gaskammer(n),” *VffG* 6(3) (2002), pp. 284-304; Engl. “No Holes, No Gas Chambers,” this issue.
- ⁸ E.g. in Germar Rudolf, *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL, 2003, pp. 113-120.
- ⁹ Charles D. Provan, *No Holes? No Holocaust?*^[9] *A Study of the Holes in the Roof of morgue 1 of Krematorium II at Birkenau*, self-published, Zimmer Printing, 410 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063, 2000; online: www.revisingrevisionism.com.
- ¹⁰ D. Keren, J. McCarthy, H.W. Mazal, “The Ruins of the Gas Chambers: A Forensic Investigation of Crematoriums at Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau,” in: *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 9(1) (2004), pp. 68-103; cf. their website www.holocaust-history.org.
- ¹¹ During the years 2002 and 2003 on the website of Russ Granata, which does no longer exist; now this paper is posted at www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/noholes.html. It is an earlier version of the revised paper in this issue, op. cit. (note 7).
- ¹² Cf. G. Rudolf, “Some considerations about the ‘Gas Chambers’ of Auschwitz and Birkenau,” online: www.vho.org/GB/c/GR/Green.html; ders., “Character assassins,” online: www.vho.org/GB/c/GR/CharacterAssassins.html; ders., “Dr. Richard Green’s Evasions,” online: www.vho.org/GB/c/GR/Evasions.html

"No Holes, No Gas Chamber(s)"

A Historical-Technical Study of the Holes in the Roof of Morgue 1 of Krematorium II at Birkenau for Introducing Zyklon B

By Carlo Mattogno

When American expert for execution techniques Fredrick A. Leuchter presented his famous expert report on the gas chambers of Auschwitz and Majdanek to a Canadian court in 1988, he initially caused confusion: in his technical drawings of the morgues no. 1 of the crematoria II and III of Auschwitz-Birkenau, which allegedly served as "gas chambers," he had drawn in four openings in the roof, through which, according to witnesses accounts, the insecticide Zyklon B had been poured in order to kill hundreds of thousands of victims. It was only in a later edition of this expert report that Leuchter added a letter to the report, in which he explained that those four holes could not be found in the ruins of those crematoria.

The Swede Ditlieb Felderer was the first, in the 1970s, to raise the question whether or not there were any holes on those roofs, without which those basements could not have served as execution chambers in the way as testified to by witnesses. Ever since then, this issue has been discussed intensely. Up to the current paper, this topic was most thoroughly treated by Germar Rudolf in his *Rudolf-Report*. Inspired by Rudolf's arguments, Charles D. Provan compiled a study, which is analyzed by Carlo Mattogno in the following paper. Provan's study is based primarily on illustrations of the roof of this morgue as it looked like in 2000, but since the copies we received are of an inferior quality, we could not reproduce his study in this journal. To summarize Provan, he thinks that he has identified at least three holes in the roof of morgue no. 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau, which could have served as introduction holes in 1943/1944. Provan concludes therefore that the quip coined by Prof. Dr. Robert Faurisson, and supported by G. Rudolf with evidence, – "No Holes, no Holocaust" – is untenable. Carlo Mattogno shows in the following that Provan's assertions themselves are untenable. All of his alleged holes are demonstrably the result of the destruction of the crematoriums during the retreat of German troops or were created only after war's end.

1. Introduction

Charles D. Provan is the author of a pamphlet entitled, "No Holes? No Holocaust?"¹ A Study of the Holes in the Roof of morgue 1 of Krematorium 2 at Birkenau."²

First of all Provan emphasizes the importance of the problem of the holes for the introduction of Zyklon B into the presumed homicidal gas chamber of crematorium II. This question, raised by historical revisionists, obtained much prominence last year during the trial *David Irving versus Penguin Books Ltd. and Deborah E. Lipstadt*. It was also discussed by Justice Gray in the written verdict.³

In his study, Provan analyzes the five categories comprising the evidence for these presumed holes, which are generally accepted by the supporters of the thesis of gas chambers at Auschwitz-Birkenau:

1. Witnesses and early historical testimony
2. Aerial photographic evidence of the holes in the roofs of the gas chambers
3. The blueprints of morgue 1, Krematorium 2
4. German wartime photographs of morgue 1 of Kre-

matoria 2 and 3

5. Physical evidence

In the first category Provan cites 16 testimonies from 9 major witnesses and 7 minor witnesses (pp. 3-9).

He then examines the statements of minor witnesses (pp. 10f.) in the following order: Egon Ochshorn, Dr. Friedmann, Janda Weiss, Rudolf Vrba and Alfred Wetzler, Ota Kraus and Erich Kulka, Werner Krumme and Alfred Franke-Gricksch. Provan concludes that these are unreliable. For the major witnesses (in order, Rudolf Höss, Henryk Tauber, Karl Schultze, Salmen Lewental, Konrad Morgen, Miklos Nyiszli, Paul Bendel, Josef Erber and Filip Müller – all of whom were "eyewitnesses"), Provan provides no analysis: he assumes *a priori* that these are reliable. But these testimonies are in fact dubious as well, as we shall subsequently see.

As to the rest, Provan bases his arguments on only four testimonies:

1. Henryk Tauber for the arrangement and number of holes for the introduction of Zyklon B (two on the east

- side and two on the west side of morgue 1).
2. Karl Schultze for the dimensions of the holes (cm 25 cm × 25 cm).
3. Konrad Morgen for the crudeness of the extermination facilities.
4. Rudolf Höss for the transformation of the crematoria into instruments of mass extermination without the knowledge of the head of the Central Construction Office.

The other testimonies served as confirmation of these four principal views.

Before examining in detail Provan's arguments, let us verify the credibility of the major witnesses cited by him.

2. The Major Witnesses Cited by Provan

JOSEF ERBER

This testimony is cited by Provan and dealt with by Gerald Fleming in his book *Hitler and the Final Solution*.⁴ The text cited by Fleming is taken in turn from a letter that Josef Erber wrote to him on September 14, 1981.⁵ The declaration of the witness is therefore already suspect on account of the date. In the first edition of the above book, which appeared in German with the title *Hitler und die Endlösung*,⁶ Fleming quotes from the original text of Erber's letter:⁷

"Two inpours [Einschütten] were in each of these gassing rooms (of Krematorium one and two in Birkenau, G.F.): inside four iron pipes each from the floor to the roof. These were surrounded by steel wire mesh, and inside was a sheet metal with a low edge. To this a wire was attached, with which the sheet metal could be pulled up to the roof. An iron lid was attached to each inpour [Einschütte] at the roof. If the lid was raised, the tin container could be pulled up and the gas could be poured in. Then the container was lowered and the lid closed."

What sort of thing is an "inpour" (*Einschütte*)? The verb "*einschütten*" means "pour in(to)" as a technical term; "to feed," "to charge or load." If, as it seems, the "*Einschütte*" was a mechanism, it must concern a device for pouring or feeding. Yet, according to the text, there were two "*Einschütten*" in each "gas chamber" of crematoria II and III and on the inside of each "*Einschütte*" there were four "iron pipes." Therefore, in each "gas chamber" there were eight "iron pipes." These devices are clearly inconsistent with those described by Henryk Tauber, and moreover it is difficult to imagine how they were made. So difficult is it that Provan himself, in order to make the text intelligible, wrote "rooms" (note 24 on p. 7) where Fleming, translating the German term "*Einschütten*," wrote "ducts." Even so, the original text categorically excludes this interpretation.

In conclusion, the testimony of Josef Erber is unreliable.

KONRAD MORGEN

Provan cites two statements made by this witness (p. 5). The first deals with the affidavit made by Morgen on July 13, 1946, document SS-65. There the witness states:

"In this moment, an SS man in a gas suit stepped over the outer air duct and poured a can with hydrogen cyanide into the room."

Morgen talks about a single "air duct," which contradicts the description accepted by Provan. The term "air duct" is moreover inappropriate in that the presumed holes for introducing Zyklon B had nothing whatsoever to do with ventilation. In crematoria II and III there were in fact a "*Belüftungsschacht*" (aeration duct) and an "*Entlüftungsschacht*" (de-aeration duct) which connected morgue no. 1 to the ventilators, blowing and drawing, and situated in the attic of the structures.⁸

The second citation is inferred from the deposition of Morgen at the trial of Oswald Pohl. The witness confirms here that Zyklon B was introduced into the "gas chamber" through a "special shaft" (p. 5): again, a single introduction device.

How reliable this witness is for the presumed "gas chambers" becomes clear upon examining what he declared during the August 8, 1946, hearing of the Nuremberg trial:⁹

"By 'Extermination Camp Auschwitz' I did not mean the concentration camp. It did not exist there. I meant a separate extermination camp near Auschwitz, called 'Monowitz.'"

A little later he confirmed this:¹⁰

"These trucks drove off, but they did not drive to the Concentration Camp Auschwitz, but in another direction to the Extermination Camp Monowitz, which was a few kilometers away."

One could imagine a slip of the tongue: Morgen was thinking of Birkenau but said Monowitz. But that he was thinking literally of Monowitz is revealed by the following statement:¹¹

"The Extermination Camp Monowitz lay far away from the concentration camp. It was situated on an extensive industrial site and was not recognizable as such and everywhere on the horizon there were smoking chimneys."

In fact, there is no doubt about it: in an "extensive industrial site" full of chimneys, he found Monowitz, certainly not Birkenau. Now if Konrad Morgen is an "eye-witness," how could he confuse Birkenau with Monowitz? It seems that he had seen precisely nothing, but spoke – for the most part incoherently – from hearsay.

Therefore, as far as we are concerned, Konrad Morgen is a completely unreliable witness.

PAUL BENDEL

Provan cites via Pressac the short text "Les Crématoires. 'Le Sonderkommando'" carrying the signature "Paul Bendel,"¹² which appeared in a book published in 1946. Here the author states that the "*chambres à gaz*" ("gas chambers") in each of crematoria II and III were "*au nombre de deux*" ("in number two") and adds:¹³

"Made of reinforced concrete, one had the impression when entering that the ceiling would fall on one's head, so low it was. In the middle of these chambers two pipes surrounded by wire mesh and with an exterior valve served for the emission of gases."

Provan notices that the presence of two gas chambers is in accord with the declaration of Tauber, according to whom "at the end of 1943, the gas chamber was divided into two by a brick wall to make it possible to gas smaller transports." (note 20 on p. 6)

Therefore Bendel would confirm Tauber. However, matters are not that simple.

It is known that the morgue no. 1 of the crematoria II and III measured internally 30 m × 7 m × 2.41 m.¹⁴ At the trial of Bruno Tesch, Bendel testified that "each gas chamber was 10 meters long and 4 meters wide" and that each had a height of 1.60 m:¹⁵

"Q. You have said that the gas chambers were ten meters by four meters by one meter sixty centimeters: is that correct? A. Yes."

Previously, on 21 October 1945 Bendel had declared:¹⁶

"There were 2 gas chambers, underground, roughly 10 meters long, 5 meters wide and 1 ½ meters high, each one."

Nevertheless, even if morgue 1 of the crematoria II and III had been divided exactly in two, this would have given rise to two localities each measuring 15 m × 7 m × 2.41 m. How can these measurements be reconciled with the quite different ones given by Bendel, that is, 10 m × 4 m × 1.6 m or 10 m × 5 m × 1.5 m?

I well understand that an estimate with the naked eye can be subject to a considerable margin of error, but how could Bendel claim that the ceiling had a height of barely 1.5 or 1.6 m? Here we are no longer dealing with an estimate since any person of medium height would have had to stoop in order to enter these fictitious places; in the actual localities, however, he would have had more than 60 to 70 cm of space above his head before touching the ceiling. An error in good faith is therefore impossible. But even the errors relative to the length and breadth of the localities, considering their modest dimensions, are diffi-

cult to explain.

Whatever the case, it is impossible for Bendel to have entered a "gas chamber" with a height of 1.5 or 1.6 m since such localities did not exist and it is just as impossible that he could have made such a gross error; therefore he is an unreliable witness.

Strangely, Bendel makes no mention of the presumed "undressing room" (morgue no. 2), even though it had a ceiling 11 cm lower than that of morgue 1!¹⁷

MIKLOS NYISZLI

Provan cites two passages from the statements of this witness (pp. 5f.). The first goes back to July 28, 1945, and the other to October 8, 1946. Nyiszli mentions four "ventilation valves" equipped with "perforated tubes" which popped out above the "gas chamber" of crematorium II in "concrete chimneys" closed with "concrete lids." "Chlorine gas" was introduced into these "valves."

In 1946 Nyiszli published a book of memoirs in Hungarian with the title *I was Dr. Mengele's Anatomist at an Auschwitz Crematorium*,¹⁸ of which there was an English translation published in the USA. Among other things it contains an detailed description of the basement of crematorium II:¹⁹

"The room^[20] into which the convoy proceeded was about 200 meters long:^[21] its walls were whitewashed and it was brightly lit. [...]."

Making his way through the crowd, an SS opened the swing-doors of the large oaken gate at the end of the room. The crowd flowed through it into another, equally well-lighted room. This second room^[22] was the same size as the first^[23] but neither benches nor pegs were to be seen. In the center of the rooms, at thirty-yard intervals, columns rose from the concrete floor to the ceiling. They were not supporting columns, but square sheet-iron pipes, the sides of which contained numerous perforations, like a wire lattice. [...]

The Deputy Health Officer held four green sheet-iron canisters. He advanced across the grass, where, every thirty yards,^[24] short concrete pipes jutted up from the ground. Having donned his gas mask, he lifted the lid of the pipe, which was also made of concrete. He opened one of the cans and poured the contents – a mauve granulated material – into the opening. The granulated substance fell in a lump to the bottom. The gas it produced escaped through the perforations, and within a few seconds filled the room in which the deportees were stacked. Within five minutes everybody was dead."

The English translation omits the following phrase from the last passage:²⁵

"A beszórt anyag Cyclon, vagy Chlór szemcsés"

formája, azonnal gázt fejleszt, amint a levegővel érintkezik!"

That is:

"The scattered substance is Cyclon or chlorine in granular form, the gas develops immediately, hardly coming into contact with air!"

Let us recapitulate.

Miklos Nyiszli, in contradiction to the plans and the ruins of the crematoria, maintains that morgue 2 had a length of 200 meters, while in reality it measured 49.49m,²⁶ and that likewise morgue 1 had a length of 200 meters, while in fact its length was 30 meters. In the "gas chamber" there were four devices for the introduction of Zyklon B, but they were separated from each other by 30 meters – the entire length of the site!

Perhaps the omission in the English translation of the above passage from the original Hungarian happened by chance, but the fact remains that it gives rise to another absurdity: as everyone knows, the toxic agent of Zyklon B was not chlorine, but rather hydrogen cyanide.

The description given by witness Nyiszli presents many more incredible blunders. For example, he maintains that there were four elevators in the basement of crematorium II:²⁷

"Four good-sized elevators were functioning [here]"

It is well known that there was but a single elevator.

In addition, he maintains that in the furnace room of crematorium II there were 15 single ovens:²⁸

"Each of these fifteen ovens was housed in a red brick structure."

In crematorium II (and III) there were in fact 5 ovens, each with 3 muffles, and so there were five brick structures, not fifteen.

Nyiszli claims to have spent eight months²⁹ (from May 1944 to January 1945) in the so-called "Sonderkommando" of the crematoria; that is, for six months his lodging was located on the ground floor of crematorium II.³⁰ He should then have had a perfect knowledge of crematorium II. So how could he have been so grossly mistaken in good faith about the dimensions of the facilities, the number of elevators and the structure of the ovens? And, since he was a medical man who presumably assisted at various "gassings," how could he maintain that the toxic agent of Zyklon B was chlorine?

It is therefore evident that this witness is absolutely unreliable.³¹

A final observation: according to Nyiszli there was a single gas chamber in crematorium II, while according to Tauber the "gas chamber" was subdivided into two at the end of 1943. On the other hand, there is the witness Bendel, who, in his own words, became a member of the

so-called "Sonderkommando" of the crematoria in June 1944.³² In the same period and in the same place, Bendel "saw" two "gas chambers" of 10 meters' length, while Nyiszli saw one "gas chamber" there of 200 meters' length. How can these statements be reconciled?

FILIP MÜLLER

The testimony of Filip Müller is pitifully late, going back only to 1979. He describes in the following way the devices for the introduction of Zyklon B:³³

"The Zyklon B gas crystals^[34] were thrown through openings in the concrete ceiling, which ended in hollow sheet metal columns in the gas chamber. These were perforated equidistantly, and inside of them a spiral ran from top to bottom, to achieve a distribution of the grainy crystals as equally as possible."

This description is very vague. Müller indicates neither the number nor the shape nor the dimensions nor the positions of either the holes or the columns. This last point takes on major significance from the fact that Filip Müller published a plan of crematorium II complete with "criminal" captions:³⁵ an excellent but lost opportunity to indicate the positions of the holes in the ceiling of morgue 1!

From such a witness, who claims to have spent "three years in the crematoria and gas chambers of Auschwitz" (as the subtitle of his book informs us), one expects something better than this dull description.

But this should not surprise us. As I have indicated elsewhere, here as in many other important places of his book, Filip Müller has done no more than plagiarize the account given by Miklos Nyiszli, of which the German translation appeared in 1961 in the magazine *Quick* published in Munich, Bavaria.³⁶

In this specific case Müller has added on his own the odd idea of the spiral – as though Zyklon B could evaporate during the few seconds it spent spiraling down this chute before arriving at the long floor!

SALMEN LEWENTHAL

This witness is even more vague than Filip Müller. From the passage cited by Provan (p. 5), one cannot even gather the number of "small upper doors."

I will subsequently return to the witnesses Höss, Schultze and Tauber.

3. The Aerial Photographs

In paragraph III (pp. 12-14) Provan examines the photographs taken by the United States Air Force during the war. In some of the photographs of the roofs of morgue 1 of crematoria II and III, such as in the one taken on 25 August 1944, there appear irregular dark patches that – as



Photo 1: Allied air photo of crematorium II in Birkenau, May 31, 1944



Photo 2. The reinforced concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau in June/July 1945. Photo by Stanislaw Kowlowca.

Provan recalls – Brugioni and Poirier have interpreted since 1979 as “vents used to insert the Zyklon-B crystals.” Since then, these patches have become a “proof” of the existence of devices for introducing Zyklon B into the presumed homicidal gas chambers.

Provan is not in agreement with the interpretation of Brugioni and Poirier and maintains that,

“No matter what one thinks of the authenticity of the smudgy marks, it is impossible to view them, whether authentic or not, as ‘vents.’” (p. 13)

Provan concludes:

“So we are hesitant to use the aerial photographs as proof that there were roof vents for Zyklon B.” (p. 14)

In fact, the interpretation of Brugioni and Poirier creates insuperable difficulties.

The first is that these patches are not shadows. At the second (1988) trial of Zündel, Kenneth R. Wilson, an expert in photogrammetry and aerial triangulation, testified – according to Barbara Kulaszka’s report – that in the aerial photograph of May 31, 1944, “the patches on top of the morgue at crematorium II were flat and had no eleva-

tion.” As for the photograph of August 25, 1944, “he determined that the patches were not shadows but did not have any elevation.”³⁷

In the second place, as other authors have since pointed out,³⁸ in the photograph of August 25, 1944, the patches on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II have lengths of 3-4 meters, and those on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium III have a minimum area of three square meters. Moreover, all the patches have their axis oriented in a north-south direction, whereas the axis of the chimney’s shadow is aligned in a north-east/south-west direction. Finally, let me add that in the aerial photograph of May 31, 1944, there appears a single dark patch at the western edge of the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II.³⁹

CREMATORIUM II OF BIRKENAU, MAY 31, 1944

Since the above patches were not shadows, what then were they? Kenneth R. Wilson advanced the hypothesis that they were “discolorations on the surface of the roof.”⁴⁰ John C. Ball claimed that these are not discolorations of the roof but of the negative, that is, marks that had been put onto the negative by a forger.⁴¹

There are, however, less radical explanations. For example, the marks may have been by some kind of flat vegetation on the roof, because the morgues were covered with earth to keep them cool. However, this does not explain why these marks are visible on some photos but not on others.

Another explanation could be that the soil covering the morgues had to be removed temporarily for reparation purposes. The roofs of morgue 1 of crematoria II and III were made of reinforced concrete 18 cm thick,⁴² insulated from rainwater by a layer of bitumen which was protected from atmospheric agents by a thin layer of cement. It is conceivable that this thin layer of concrete had been damaged, resulting in leaks,⁴³ which could have led the Central Construction Office to have the soil removed in order to perform the reparations necessary. But it seems more likely that such a soil removal would have been done in large areas, but not in areas merely 3 m long and 1 m wide. There is also no documentary evidence for such reparation works.

A final possibility is that the morgues were not at all covered with earth at the time these photos were made, and that the marks indicate areas where the upper concrete layer had been damaged and the lower layer of black bitumen emerged, creating the patches which are seen on the aerial photographs.

4. The Plans of Morgue 1 of Crematorium II

Referring to Robert Faurisson's discovery of the fact that the presumed gas chamber of crematorium II is designated "morgue 1" in the original plans of crematorium



Photo 3. The reinforced concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau in August 2000. © Carlo Mattogno

II in Birkenau, and that no holes in the ceiling are displayed for this locality, Provan notes:

"Though these two discoveries are important, let us observe that they are in agreement with an interrogation which took place over 50 years ago." (p. 15)

Next Provan cites an extract from the interrogation that Rudolf Höss underwent on April 1, 1946, which he summarizes and comments upon as follows:

"Note that Höss mentioned several times that he was forbidden to discuss the execution of the Jews with anyone. Upon his return to Auschwitz he began working on the plans for extermination facilities by instructing his construction chief (whose name was Bischoff). He ordered Bischoff to begin work on a large crematorium, the plans of which were sent to Himmler. Subsequently, Höss figured out the changes needed to convert the crematorium into a homicidal facility, and sent them to Himmler. The changes were approved." (pp. 15f.)

In concluding, he writes that the "gas chamber" was called "morgue 1" and that no holes were described for the introduction of Zyklon B:

"since the man in charge of it was not permitted to know of its real purpose, and therefore did not draw them on the plans." (p. 16)

Provan's conclusion is therefore based on the statements of Rudolf Höss; but are such statements reliable? To answer this question let us now examine the context in which they are placed.

Höss maintained that he received the order to exterminate the Jews in Berlin from Himmler personally in July 1941.⁴⁴ On that occasion Himmler explained that

*"the extermination camps in Poland that existed at that time were not capable of performing the work assigned to them."*⁴⁵

Then, to a specific query of the interrogator, Höss responded:

"There were three camps: first, Treblinka, Belzak [sic] near Lemberg and the third one was about 40 kilometers in the direction of Kulm. It was past Kulm in an easterly direction."

The third "extermination camp" should have been Sobibór. Nevertheless, the geographic direction given by Höss is mistaken since "Kulm" corresponds to the Polish "Chelmno," while the neighboring city of Sobibór is "Chelm," which in German is called "Cholm."

Therefore, when Höss claimed that Himmler had informed him that

*"the camps in Poland were not suitable for enlargement and the reason why he had chosen Auschwitz was because of the fact it had good railroad connections and could be enlarged"*⁴⁶

and ordered him

*"to look at an extermination camp in Poland and eliminate in the construction of my camp the mistakes and inefficiency existing in the Polish camp,"*⁴⁷

he understood that, according to Himmler, in July 1941 there already existed the "extermination camps" of Treblinka, Belzec and Sobibór, exactly as Höss described them during the interrogation of 14 March 1946 when he declared

*"I was ordered to see Himmler in Berlin in June [sic] 1941 and he told me, approximately, the following: The Führer ordered the solution of the Jewish question in Europe. A few so-called Vernichtungslager are existing in the general government (Belzek [Belzec] near Rawa Ruska Ost Polen, Tublinka [Treblinka] near Malina [Malkinia] on the river Bug, and Wolzek^[48] near Lublin."*⁴⁹

Let us now turn to the interrogation of April 1, 1946. Höss declared there that he had visited the Treblinka camp before constructing his extermination facilities at Auschwitz. The purpose of his visit was precisely to "eliminate in the construction" of his "camp the mistakes and inefficiency" of Treblinka. Höss describes at length the presumed extermination procedure at Treblinka, specifying

*"at that time the action in connection with the Warsaw Ghetto was in progress, and I watched the procedure."*⁵⁰

Also this description reproduces what Höss declared at the interrogation of March 14, 1946:⁵¹

"I visited the camp Treblinka in Spring 1942 to inform myself about the conditions. The following method was used in the process of extermination. Small chambers were used equipped with pipes to induce exhaust gas from car engines. This method was unreliable as the engines, coming from old captured transport vehicles and tanks, very often failed to work. Because of that the intakes could not be dealt with according to the plan, which meant to clear the Warsaw Ghetto. According to the Camp Commandant of Treblinka 80000 people have been gassed in the course of half a year."

Rudolf Höss recounted the same story also at the interrogation of April 8, 1946:⁵²

"I had the order to create extermination facilities in Auschwitz in June 1941. At that time, three other extermination facilities already existed in the Government General: Belzek, Treblinka, and Wolzek. These camps were under the jurisdiction of the Einsatzkommando of the Security Police and the SD. I visited Treblinka to determine how the exterminations are being executed. The camp commander of Treb-

linka told me that he has liquidated 80,000 with half a year. His main task was the liquidation of all the Jews from the Warsaw ghetto. He used carbon monoxide gas, and according to him his method was not efficient. When I erected the extermination building in Auschwitz, I therefore used Zyklon B, a crystalline blue acid [sic], which we threw into the death chamber through small openings."

So Höss affirmed that in June or July 1941 there were already in existence the camps of Belzec and Treblinka, and that he had visited the Treblinka camp "in Spring 1942", but before the construction of the "extermination building" at Auschwitz; that is, at the latest before the installation of the so-called "Bunker 1" – which should have entered into service on March 20, 1942,⁵³ or in May 1942, according to Pressac.⁵⁴

Nonetheless, the Belzec camp was opened on March 17, 1942,⁵⁵ and Treblinka on July 23, 1942.⁵⁶ In conclusion, these two camps did not exist in 1941; therefore the statements that Höss attributes to Himmler are false. What is more, since Höss could not have visited Treblinka before the start of the presumed extermination at Auschwitz, his account of it is false.

Thus, the declarations of Höss cited by Provan are contained in this context of manifest historical falsehood; why then should one believe in their truthfulness?

Hence the context leads one to seriously doubt the reliability of the declarations of Rudolf Höss which Provan cites.

Let us now examine the substance of Rudolf Höss' statements. He maintains:⁵⁷

"I immediately got in touch with the chief of a construction unit and told him that I need a large crematorium."

This took place in June or July 1941 on his return to Auschwitz from the meeting with Himmler in Berlin. Nonetheless, the first plan of the new crematorium – the future crematorium II – was drawn up by SS-Untersturmführer Dejaco on October 24, 1941,⁵⁸ that is, three or four months later, which is hard to reconcile with the adverb "immediately." The second plan of the crematorium was realized in November 1941 by the architect Werkmann of the SS Main Office Budget and Buildings;⁵⁹ this shows that the construction of this facility was not a local secret affair. Höss then states that he "changed" the plans "in accordance with the real purpose" of Himmler's instructions – that is, he modified the original plans, thus transforming a simple hygienic and sanitary facility into an instrument for extermination – and sent these plans so modified to Himmler, who approved of them.⁶⁰ The definitive plan for the crematorium was completed at Auschwitz in January 1942.⁶¹ Yet ac-

cording to Pressac, the first presumed "criminal" modification of these plans can be found in plan no. 2003 of December 19, 1942.⁶² Therefore, Höss would have had to have waited twelve months before initiating the criminal modification of the crematorium! I say "initiating" because, as Provan states, the holes in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II would have been made between the end of January 1943 and the middle of March 1943 (pp. 18f), so that Höss would have had to wait at least another month before carrying out this indispensable modification in order to use the above locality as a homicidal gas chamber. I shall return to this essential point in Section VI.

On the other hand, the claim of Rudolf Höss that he created at Auschwitz installations for extermination without informing the head of the Central Construction Office beforehand is decisively nonsensical, considering our knowledge of the structure, functions and duties of this bureau.⁶³ This is even truer of the presumed "criminal" modifications to crematorium II. In fact, if Bischoff had transformed the so-called "Bunker 1" by May 1942 into a homicidal gas chamber (and in June the so-called "Bunker 2"), and if the mass extermination of the Jews had begun by July 4 at the latest,⁶⁴ then Himmler's "secret" at Auschwitz was revealed and Bischoff could not but have been perfectly informed of it. If so, why then did Höss have to continue transforming crematorium II into an extermination facility, gradually and secretly, without the knowledge of Bischoff who now knew the "secret"?

All this is nonsensical; so the statements of Rudolf Höss are false also on this score.

A final observation: A further "criminal" modification of the basement of crematorium II was supposed to be the change of the entrance staircase to morgue 2. Even though this entrance was less important to the extermination process than the holes in the ceiling of morgue 1 (because the victims could enter the basement through the entrance on the north side of the crematorium),⁶⁵ this staircase modification does appear in the plan attached to the documentation on the "negotiation of handing over" of the crematorium to the Kommandantur.⁶⁶ But then why do the much more important holes for introducing Zyklon B not appear in this plan?

In conclusion, while it is true that the plans for the crematoria are "in accord with [the respective passages of] the statement of Höss" (p. 30), these "statements" are not "in accord" with historical reality; therefore Provan's arguments are altogether untenable.

5. The Terrestrial Photographs of Morgue 1

In paragraph V, "German wartime photographs of morgue 1 of crematoria 2 and 3," Provan analyzes the

four photographs adduced by Pressac as proof of the existence of chimneys for the introduction of Zyklon B on the roof of morgue 1, and Provan comes to the conclusion that in reality these prove nothing.

Photograph 1 (negative number 20995/507 from the Auschwitz Museum):

"Try as we might, we cannot see any of these openings on the photograph." (p. 17)

Photograph 2 (negative number 20995/494 from the Auschwitz Museum):

"It is our conclusion therefore, that whatever they are, they are not the Zyklon B insertion chimneys spoken of by the eyewitnesses." (p. 18)

Photograph 3 (negative number 20995/460 from the Auschwitz Museum):

"Since the object, whatever it is, isn't on the roof at all, this is conclusive evidence that it was not a Zyklon B introduction chimney." (p. 18)

Photograph 4 (negative number 20995/506 from the Auschwitz Museum):

"The roof is covered with snow, and no vents for Zyklon B are visible. Since the picture is dated from January 20-22, 1943, we can deduce that any holes for Zyklon B insertion must have been put in after that date." (p. 18)

To Germar Rudolf's observation that forcing openings through the finished roof of morgue 1 "would truly be an incredibly stupid piece of bungling,"⁶⁷ Provan responds:

"We do not see why this would be so. We have already seen that Höss could not even tell his SS architect about the building's real purpose, and we can observe that all of the blueprints call that gas chamber 'morgue 1.' [...] So we see no problem with this method being the method of creating Zyklon B holes in the roof of morgue 1" (p. 19).

This statement deserves an adequate response.

6. The Arguments of Pressac and Van Pelt

As I have shown in Section 4, Provan's hypothesis regarding the criminal transformation of the crematoria without the knowledge of the head of the Central Construction Office is completely untenable; therefore this cannot explain why the roof of morgue 1 was constructed without holes for introducing Zyklon B.

Hence, the question of why the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II was constructed without holes for introducing Zyklon B remains unsolved, but is far more serious than Provan thinks. In fact, this is in blatant contradiction to the thesis of the transformation of crematorium II in the criminal sense – a thesis which Provan himself adheres to.

Pressac maintains that crematorium II, like cremato-

rium III, was planned and constructed as a normal facility for hygienic and sanitary purposes,⁶⁸ but at the end of October 1942 the Central Construction Office decided to transfer the presumed homicidal gassing activity from the so-called "Bunker" to the crematoria of Birkenau. In fact, from the end of 1942 the original plans of the basement underwent various modifications, in which Pressac sees "criminal traces" of the transformation of the basement for homicidal purposes with the installation of a gas chamber in morgue 1 and of an undressing room in morgue 2. The modification Pressac emphasizes most is that in plan 2003 of December 1942: the corpse chute no longer appears. This implies, the French historian tells us, "the unique possible access to the morgue became the north stairway, which implies that the dead will have to descend the stairs on foot."⁶⁹

Pressac's interpretation has been accepted in its general line of argument by all western historians who support the existence of homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz, such as Robert Jan van Pelt, who took it up in his book *Auschwitz 1270 to the Present* (written in collaboration with Debórah Dwork),⁷⁰ where he quotes, without even giving a source, the following comment of Pressac:⁷¹

"The victims would walk to their death."

In this context, another "criminal trace" cited by Pressac is the term "special basement." In this regard he writes:⁷²

"To inform Bischoff, Wolter wrote a note on this subject entitled 'De-aeration for the crematoria (crematoria I and II)' in which he designated the 'basement 1 for cadavers' [Morgue 1] of crematorium II as a 'special basement' (Sonderkeller)."

This note, written on November 27, 1942, by SS-Untersturmführer Wolter, would have formed part of the presumed plan of the Central Construction Office to transfer the activity "with gas" in Bunkers 1 and 2 to a locality in the crematorium equipped with artificial ventilation and would constitute the first "criminal blunder"—that is, the first indication of "an abnormal use of the crematoria that is inexplicable except as a massive treatment of human beings with gas."⁷² Therefore, the term "special basement," which appears in this note, would be a secret code designating a homicidal gas chamber. Pressac's argument is based solely on the presence of this term.

Wolter, in the note under discussion and referring to what engineer Prüfer had told him on the telephone, wrote:⁷³

"Within about 8 days the firm [Topf] will have a mechanic free who can install the de-aeration system when the ceilings of the special basements are ready;

also the forced draft blowers for the five three-muffle ovens"

As we have seen above according to Pressac, the term "special basement" designated "the 'basement 1 for cadavers' of crematorium II."

Nevertheless, in this document the term "special basements" is in the plural, and moreover the possibility that it refers also to the "basement 1 for cadavers" of crematorium III can be excluded. Although this document has for its object the "de-aeration for the crematoria" [*Entlüftungen für Krematorien*] (that is, for crematoria II and III) in reality it refers only to crematorium II. In fact, it was only in crematorium II that construction work had progressed to the point that within a short period of time the roofs of the basements would be required. Indeed, by January 23, 1943, the reinforced concrete ceilings of cellars 1 and 2 in crematorium II had already been completed, while in the corresponding localities of crematorium III only the work of isolating the floor from the water-bearing stratum [aquifer] had been finished.⁷⁴ Furthermore, the reference to the installation of the "forced draft blowers" only makes sense with respect to crematorium II, in which the five 3-muffle ovens as well as the smoke conduits had already been completed, whereas in crematorium III the chimney had been raised up only to the crematorium ceiling.⁷⁴ On the other hand, there were two basement rooms in crematorium II for which a "de-aeration system" was foreseen, namely, morgue 1 and morgue 2. The first was also furnished with an aeration system, the second only with a de-aeration system, which was installed between the March 15 and 21, 1943.⁷⁵ It is therefore clear that the "special basement" in Wolter's note were the two morgues of crematorium II. These basements were "special" precisely because they were the only two morgues thus equipped with a "de-aeration system" among the six basements into which the basement of the crematorium was subdivided.⁷⁶

The term "special basement" also appears in a document formerly unknown to Pressac. In the "Construction Report for the Month of October 1942" drawn up by Bischoff on the 4th of November 1942, one reads referring to crematorium II:⁷⁷

"Constructing concrete pressure plate in special basement. walled up the de-aeration ducts and started the inner basement wall."

The "concrete pressure plate" was the layer of concrete at the floor of the cellars that served to balance the groundwater pressure.⁷⁸

If, as seems likely, the term "special basement" refers in this context to morgue 1, then its use is explained by the fact that this locality, being equipped with a system for both aeration and de-aeration, was probably — as Pres-

1160
Zentral-Bauleitung
des Waffen- und Polizei
ARCHIVUM
Auftrag
den 6. 3. 1943
Nr. 0162
67.
Zentral-Bauleitung
der Waffen- u. Polizei
Auftrag 0/5.
für
Müll- und Abfallbeseitigung
Schlosserei
Bedingungen:
Lieferzeit: 10 Tage
Dringend
Betreff: K.G.P. B.W. 30.6 u. c. - Einlieferungsantrag
64 Mtk. Metallrahmen aus Aluminium 5/8" auf Metallrahmen der Kasse
32 Stück
32 Stück
Lieferung erfolgt frei Baustelle. Maße sind an der Baustelle selbst nachzuprüfen. Genauer Materialbedarf (einzeln spezifiziert) ist sofort auf der Zeichnung mitzuteilen.
Schröder
44. 24.
328

Photo 4: Order of Central Construction Office to inmate locksmith shop, no. 67 of March 6, 1943.

sac himself hypothesizes – intended:⁷⁹

"to take corpses several days old, beginning to decompose and thus requiring the room to be well-ventilated."

Let us suppose that Pressac's interpretation of the criminal transformation of the crematoria is correct. Let us concede that this "special basement" was morgue 1, and that this was a secret code indicating a homicidal gas chamber.

Then let us see what the consequences of this postulation are regarding the question of the openings we are examining in the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II.

Pressac maintains that at the end of October 1942 the Central Construction Office decided to transfer the presumed homicidal gassing activity from the so-called Bunker 1 and 2 "to a locality of the crematorium equipped with artificial ventilation, as was practiced in December 1941 in the morgue of crematorium I."⁸⁰ This is how he

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44. 24.
328

Photo 5: Back side of the same document.

explains the way, in which the presumed homicidal gassing was carried out in this crematorium [crematorium I]:⁸¹

"Three square holes were made and located in the ceiling of the 'morgue'^[82] to allow for the introduction of Zyklon B which was poured directly into the locality whose two access doors had been made gastight."

As photograph 20995/506 of Auschwitz Museum demonstrates, and as Provan himself admits, the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II was constructed without holes for the introduction of Zyklon B.

If then the "special basement" of crematorium II designated a homicidal gas chamber to be realized according to the model of crematorium I, why did the Central Construction Office not anticipate the holes in the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 1 during the construction of its scaffolding by carpenters?

Therefore, one must imagine that the Central Con-

struction Office, although having planned the transformation of morgue 1 into an homicidal gas chamber at the time when only the concrete floor in this locality had been laid for protection against the water-bearing stratum, would have constructed a ceiling without holes – an essential device for gassing with Zyklon B – and then later, with hammer and chisel, made four holes for Zyklon B in the reinforced concrete roof of the locality which was 18 cm in thickness!

Unfortunately for Pressac, the technicians of the Central Construction Office were not that idiotic. In fact, as we shall see in Section 7, at the time of laying the concrete they prepared the round hole in the reinforced concrete ceiling of morgue 2 for the passage of piping for the de-aeration system and they did the same thing in the ceiling of the furnace room for the five intake openings for hot air.

In conclusion, not only is the postulation regarding perforations in the ceiling of morgue 1 to create holes for the introduction of Zyklon B an "inconceivably stupid error," as Germar Rudolf says, but it is also decisively senseless and totally against one of the cornerstones of the thesis of Pressac, van Pelt and Provan himself.

7. Archaeological Proofs

In March of 2000 Provan went to Birkenau and made a series of inspections of the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II which he then documented together with 18 photographs (pp. 37-41).

He mentions eight holes, three of which – numbers 2, 6 and 8 – he considers to be original (pp. 25-26 and 30), that is, made by the SS in 1943 in order to introduce Zyklon B into the "gas chamber," so that "the 'No Holes, No 'Holocaust'" argument is no longer possible to make, since there are three suitable areas where there are holes in the roof, in accord with eyewitness testimony, with the fourth unobservable." (p. 31)

Let us examine his arguments.

PROVAN'S TWO ASSUMPTIONS

Provan's conclusion rests on the assumption that the presumed holes for introducing Zyklon B measured 25 cm × 25 cm, according to a statement of Schultze (p. 30).

Karl Schultze participated with Heinrich Messing in the installation of the "de- and aeration system" in crematorium II. His dispatch to Auschwitz for this purpose was announced in advance on February 24, 1943, by the Topf firm for the first of March.⁸³ He worked with Messing in morgue 1 until March 23rd, the date on which the ventilation system was definitely put into operation,⁸⁴ the day after the first presumed gassing took place,⁸⁵ so that the columns described by Tauber had already been in-

stalled.⁸⁶ By contrast, Schultze mentions no columns, limiting himself to saying:⁸⁷

"In der Decke waren vier quadratische Öffnungen 25 x 25 Zentimeter."

Provan fails to notice this contradiction.

THE TESTIMONY OF MICHAL KULA

The above assumption is moreover categorically belied by the witness Michal Kula. It is necessary to specify that the existence of the holes in question is based exclusively on testimonies, and in this respect the quintessential witness is Michal Kula, inmate no. 2718. I will explain why. First let us see what he declared during his cross-examination on June 11, 1945:⁸⁸

"Among other things made in the locksmith's workshop were the fake showers intended for the gas chambers, as well as the columns of wire netting for introducing the contents of cans of Zyklon into the gas chambers. This column had a height of 3 meters with a square cross-section of (width) about 70 cm. Such a column was constituted of three nets, one inside the other. The outside net was made of 3 mm iron wire stretched over angle irons measuring 50 mm x 10 mm. These angle irons were found all over the net and the upper and lower parts were linked by an angle iron of the same type. The mesh of the nets was square, measuring 45 mm. The second net was constructed in the same way and was inserted into the interior of the first at a distance of about 150 mm. The mesh of this net was square and measured about 25 mm. Both nets on angle irons were connected by an iron bar. The third part of the column was movable. It was an empty column made of a thin zinc lamina with a square section of about 150 mm. At the top it terminated in a cone and below in a flat square base. Angle irons of sheet metal were welded onto a thin bar of sheet metal at a distance of about 25 mm from the edge of this column. On these angle irons a thin net was stretched with square mesh of about 1 mm. This net ended at the base of the cone and from there toward the upper extension of the net ran a framework of sheet metal along the full height to the vertex of the cone. A can of Zyklon was poured from above into the distribution cone and thus a uniform distribution of the Zyklon on all four sides of the column was obtained. After evaporation of the gas the entire central column was withdrawn and the evaporated silica removed."

Kula was a member of the "inmate locksmith shop" as a turner. His number appears in a document with a stamp dated February 8, 1943, and having for object "Inmate locksmith shop. Listing of inmates," in which the numbers of the 192 detainees who belonged to this workshop

are recorded.⁸⁹ The inmate locksmith shop was one Kommando of various work shops of the Central Construction Office specializing in various building sectors, in which the Kommandos of inmates operated, usually specialized workmen.

The Kommandos of the workshops did their work in all construction sites, including the crematoria. Following the practice of 1942, the head of construction or leader of construction, who needed the service, first submitted a request to the materials administration with the correct, numbered form. If the request was authorized, the head of workshop imparted the task to the Kommando concerned by means of the appropriate numbered form, in which the type of work to be done was indicated. The Kommando, which carried out the work, then compiled a work-card, in which the job number, the Kommando, the consignee, the commencement, and the end of the work was indicated. On the back of the card the materials used were listed and the cost of the materials plus the work. The inmate locksmith shop had a different card, on which was recorded: the inmate detail, the object of the work, the customer, the start and end of the work, the name the detainee, his qualification and the time it took him to do the work. The back of the card was not different from the other card model. The Kommandos were subdivided into inmate details that operated under the responsibility of the head of the detail and of an Ober-Capo. If the service of the work was the manufacture of any object, the consignee signed a numbered receipt upon receiving said object.

On February 8, 1943, the 192 detainees of the inmate locksmith shop, who were under the authority of SS-Unterscharführer Kywitz, were subjected to the D.A.W. (Deutsche Ausrüstungswerke = German equipment works).⁸⁹ Beginning from the next day, the orders that had been placed with the workshop were noted in a register which comprised the following headings: date of arrival of orders, serial number of D.A.W., reference, object, number of used working hours, start and end of the work. Then relative data was extracted from the work-cards. The register also contained an indication of the number and date of the orders based on appropriate forms. The Central Construction Office supplied these workshops with the necessary material and issued a delivery order in their favor. When the work was done, D.A.W. sent the Central Construction Office the relative invoice.⁶³

The numbered form, in which the type of work to be carried out was indicated, bore, as a rule, the plan that showed the form and size of the object to be constructed and listed the necessary materials. An example appears in order no. 67 of March 6, 1943, see Photos no. 4 & 5.⁹⁰

This order appears in the register of the inmate locksmith shop in the following terms:⁹¹

"8. March 43. no.165. POW camp. crematorium BW. 30 b and c. Object: 64 pieces stone screws made of round iron 5/8" Ø according to sketch as provided. Delivery time: urgent! Constr. Off. order. no. 67 of March 6, 43. Completed: April 2, 43."

So if Kula really built the above contraption, then it was the object of a specific order of the Central Construction Office, in which there was a sketch indicating the structure and exact dimensions of the device's various parts, and Kula constructed it on the basis of this sketch. Having therefore studied the sketch and then having created the device, Kula was the person who best understood it and who could best describe it. Consequently, in this respect he is the number one witness.

On the other hand, the description of the device for introducing Zyklon B that was supplied by Henryk Tauber in his deposition of May 24, 1945, agrees with that of Kula, as can be seen from the following translation made from the original text:⁹²

"The vault of the gas chamber rested on concrete pillars along the center of its length. On the left and on the right of these pillars there were four columns. The outside part of these columns was made of grills of thick steel wire that went up to the ceiling and into the exterior. Inside^[93] this part was a second net with smaller mesh and holes, and in its interior a third [net] was planted. In this third net a box was moved by means of which, using a steel wire, the powder – from which the gas had by now evaporated – was withdrawn."

Consequently, compared with the testimony of Kula, the testimony of Karl Schultze is totally insignificant, because – as we have seen above – he only mentions the holes but not the columns and hence did not see the columns at a time when they would necessarily have been present, or because he was a chance witness. Additionally, his testimony was made while he was in soviet custody, where his two colleagues died, one of them during the interrogation!⁹⁴

In conclusion, if the columns measured 70 cm × 70 cm, the holes in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II could not have measured 25 cm × 25 cm.

The second assumption, upon which Provan bases his conclusions, is the "rule of architecture," according to which

"when violent stress is put on a concrete structure, cracks show up passing through holes made previous to the violent force, since the holes makes the structure weaker in that location." (p. 26)

Provan has distorted a "rule" mentioned and applied by Germar Rudolf in his analysis of the openings in question:⁹⁵



Photo 6: Round opening for the pipe of the ventilation through the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 2 of crematorium II in Birkenau. August 2000. © Carlo Mattogno.



Photo 7: Round opening for the pipe of the ventilation through the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 2 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Section enlargement of Photo 6. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 8: Round opening for the pipe of the ventilation through the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 2 of crematorium II in Birkenau. October 1991. © Carlo Mattogno

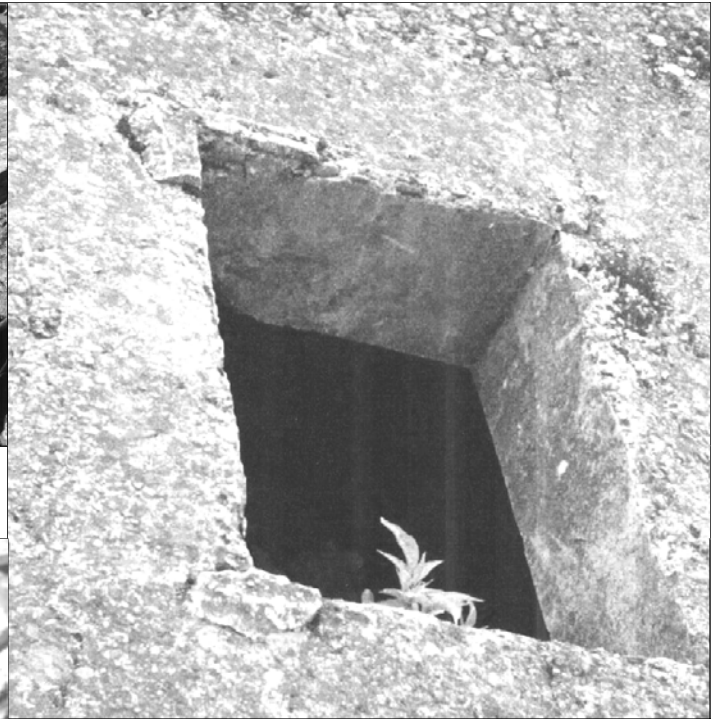


Photo 9: Ceiling of the oven room of crematorium III. First ventilation opening (seen from the west). June 1990. © Carlo Mattogno

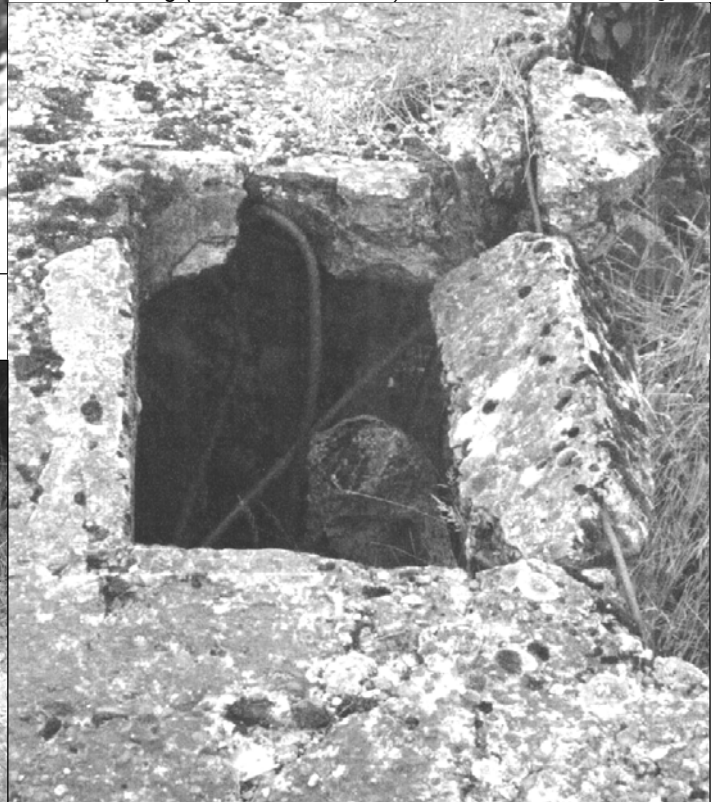


Photo 10: Ceiling of the oven room of crematorium III. Second ventilation opening (seen from the west). June 1990. © Carlo Mattogno

"An opening pierced through the concrete in the roof of either morgue 1 ('gas chamber') in consideration at a later time would inevitably have had the consequence, when the building was blown up, that the breaks and fissures caused to the roof by the explosion would have run preferentially through these holes.

The reason for this is that explosions exert extraordinarily great forces, and that the formation of cracks is favored by any weakness in the structure, since the tension peaks attain very high values in the vicinity of acute angles (notch effect, see Fig. 48). Such holes, in particular, which would already have damaged the structure of the concrete due to their incorporation following completion of the structure, represent not only points of likely fracture, but points of inevitable fracture."

PROVAN'S ANALYSIS OF "CRIMINAL" HOLE NO. 2

Provan adopts this "rule" in the following way to explain hole no. 2:

"According to the testimony of the witness Schultze, the Zyklon B holes were only some 25 cm square when he saw them (in 1943). We do not see why a small hole couldn't be made much larger after suffering a violent shock of a massive explosion, so violent as to lift the entire southern end of the roof into the air high enough to smash a hole in the roof at Pillar 1 on the way down. If some of the holes in the nearby oven room were entirely destroyed in the explosion, we think it reasonable to suppose the cause for Hole 2 being so large now, is the same demolition work. Bear in mind that the explosions which occurred were strong enough to open holes in the ceiling where none had been before, and one will recognize the power to make a smaller hole bigger. So we posit a smaller hole originally, made larger by the explosives." (pp. 27f.)

This hypothesis is unfounded, because it is not covered by the rule mentioned, which concerns only cracks emanating from existing weak spots, not that existing holes would be increased in their size. Provan's hypothesis is also refuted by the facts.

The explosion in morgue 2 of crematorium II was still more violent than that in morgue 1 since it destroyed nearly all the roof of the locality, except for a small part at the east end. Now it is precisely on this part of the roof that there is a round hole through which passed the piping for the de-aeration (*Entlüftung*) of morgue 2. (See photographs 6 & 7).

This hole, with a diameter of 38 cm,⁹⁶ has not suffered any damage from the explosion: its edges have remained intact (see photograph 8). Especially round holes, which

have been planned from the start and are reinforced, are not weak spots of the reinforced concrete, in particular because they do not have any acute angles.

Also the ventilation holes that existed in the reinforced concrete ceiling of the furnace room in crematorium III, which have been planned in from the start and whose edges were reinforced, have also remained intact or are damaged, but in such a way that their rectangular form remains clearly recognizable. These holes measured 80 cm × 50 cm,⁹⁷ were 5 in number, and each was placed on the ceiling above the central muffle of each crematory oven.⁹⁸ As Pressac has noted, these are clearly visible in a photograph of crematorium II taken at the beginning of 1943.⁹⁹ Photographs 9 and 10 show the first two holes from the west, one intact, the other slightly damaged.

Pressac has published a photograph in which all five holes appear (photograph 11). Starting from the hole nearest the lens (from the east), the first is damaged but recognizable as a hole. The second is indistinct since from it emerges one of the reinforced concrete pillars that

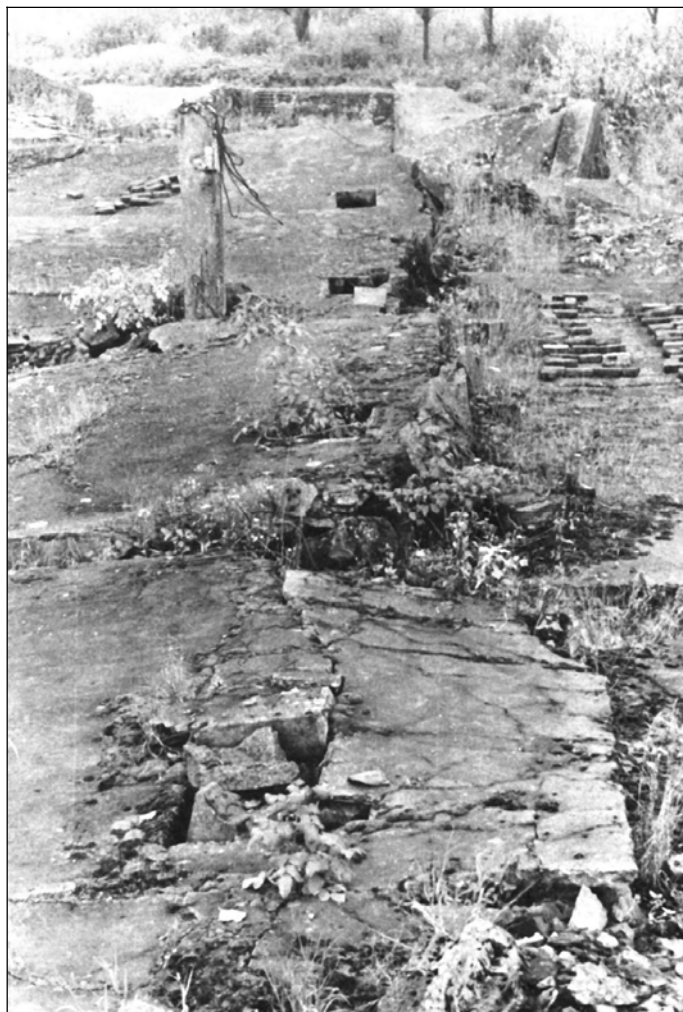


Photo 11: All five ventilation openings of the ceiling of the oven room of crematorium III. Photo by J.-C. Pressac.

supported the attic of the furnace room. The remains of a pillar also jut out from the first hole. The two holes are linked by a long crack that was evidently caused by the collapse of this part of the ceiling on these two pillars. The third hole appears to be slightly damaged; the fourth and fifth are intact.

Therefore, of five¹⁰⁰ holes originally placed on two reinforced concrete roofs that were blown up by the SS and of which we have visual documentation, three remain intact, one is slightly damaged and the other has suffered more serious damage but is nonetheless easily recognizable as a hole: the rectangular squaring and the straight internal edges are still clearly visible.

It is a matter of fact that cracks, if they formed at all, would primarily run through acute angles, but that properly planned and reinforced holes have a lower tendency to form such cracks. It would be different with holes which would have been incorporated after the roof was finished, i.e., by damaging the concrete and the reinforcement structure. But even in such cases one would expect only cracks running through the acute angles of such a hole, but not with an enlargement of the entire hole. There would be no reason for that.

We can see from these considerations that Provan's "rule" was a distortion and falsification of Rudolf's statements, which are simply not applicable in the way Provan suggests.

Hence Provan's conclusion that the existing hole no. 2 in the roof of morgue 1 was enlarged from a smaller hole due to the explosion is totally untenable.

Such a conclusion is also untenable from a technical

point of view. The reinforcement of the ceiling of the morgue consisted of a dense lattice of iron rods arranged in the longitudinal and transversal senses, as can be seen in a photograph published by Pressac¹⁰¹ of which an enlarged section appears in photograph 12.

The violent action caused by an explosion is due to the enormous pressure it causes. For example, TNT creates an impact force of 8,100 kg per square meter. Though huge, such a pressure cannot volatize the thick plaiting of iron rods that are found inside the presumed original hole no. 2 of 25 cm × 25 cm (= 625 cm²).¹⁰² According to Provan, this hole measured 89 cm × 52 cm (p. 26), so about 4 630 cm². It follows that the explosion would have volatized about 4,000 cm² of reinforced concrete and iron bars, leaving only insignificant traces. Nevertheless, all the other holes photographed by Provan – and also others not photographed – show most plainly the remains of the iron bars in the reinforcement, which therefore have not been volatized at all.

Having established that hole no. 2 could not have been enlarged from an originally smaller one, let us now consider another essential question.

As I showed above, by far the most important witness of the presumed columns for introducing Zyklon B is Michal Kula.

He declared that such columns had a square cross-section of 70 cm × 70 cm and a height of 3 meters, so that they ran across the ceiling and protruded above it by 41 (=300-241-18) cm. In order to install such an apparatus it was necessary to make a slightly bigger hole in the reinforced concrete ceiling, let us say of 75 cm × 75 cm.

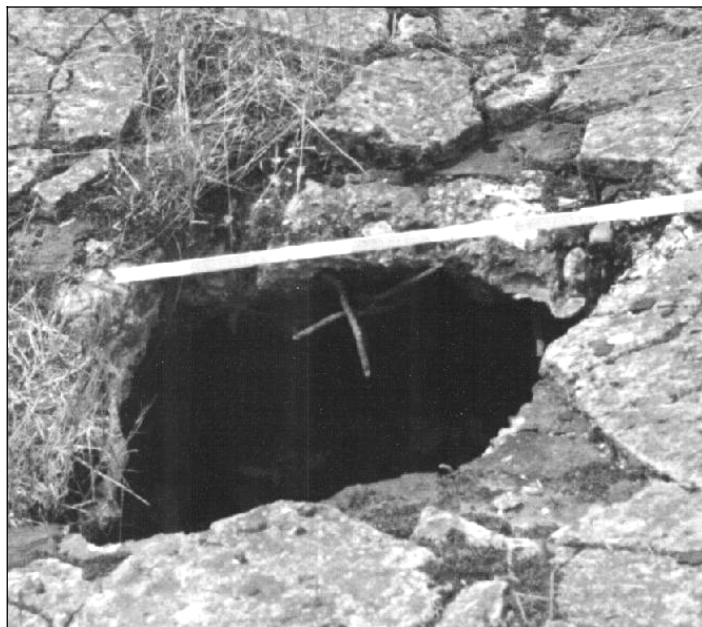


Photo 13: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in June 1990. © Carlo Mattogno

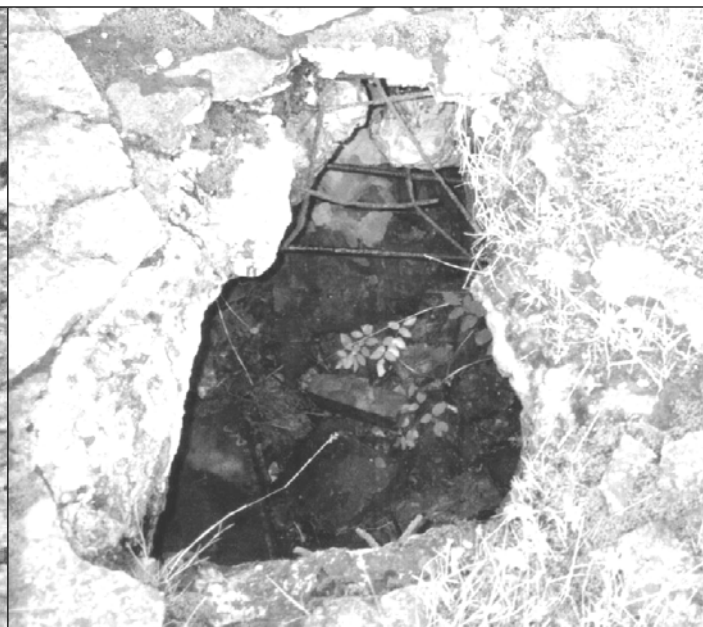


Photo 14: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in July 1992. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 15: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in August 1997. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 16: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in June-July 1945. Section enlargement of photo 2.



Photo 17: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in July 1992. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 18: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in August 2000. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 20: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 7 in June 1990.



Photo 21: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Reinforcement bars of opening 7 in June 1990.



Photo 22: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 7 in October 1991. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 23: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 7 in July 1992. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 24: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 7 in August 1997. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 25: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 7 in August 2000. © Carlo Mattogno

However, when I measured it in June 1990, hole no. 2 had a trapezoidal form of greatest side 86 cm and a maximum width of 50 cm (see photograph 13). The side opposite the longest ran obliquely for 52 cm toward the interior, ending in the shape of a tooth; it then continued parallel to the opposite longest side for a further 40 cm. A distance of 43 cm separated the tooth from the opposite side.

Between 1992 (photograph 14) and 1997 (photograph 15) the hole has been coarsely enlarged and squared by blows with a chisel.

As can be seen from a comparison of the photographs 16, 17 and 18, hole no. 2 appearing in the photograph of 1945 has been successively enlarged, especially in its eastern part.

Because the longest sides of the hole measured 50 cm \times 86 cm in 1991 and this hole was smaller in 1945, it could not have contained a column with square section 70 cm \times 70 cm, so that this hole is absolutely incompatible with the essential testimony of Kula.

When and by whom was this hole made? Photograph 2 was taken by Stanisaw Kolowca, who was engaged on

May 29, 1945, as a press-photographer by the examining magistrate Jan Sehn.¹⁰³ It was published as photograph no. 70 in the court record of the trial of Rudolf Höss¹⁰⁴ and probably goes back to June and July of 1945.

In the expert report on the crematoria of Auschwitz-Birkenau made by Prof. Roman Dawidowski on behalf of Jan Sehn and finished on September 26, 1946, it is stated that on the 12th of May and the 4th of June of 1945 inspections in the areas of crematorium IV and crematorium II were carried out, where there were discovered:¹⁰⁵

"2 damaged shutters from the ventilation apertures of the gas chamber in this crematorium / Zinksiebe 7 cm x 18 cm - order no. 162."

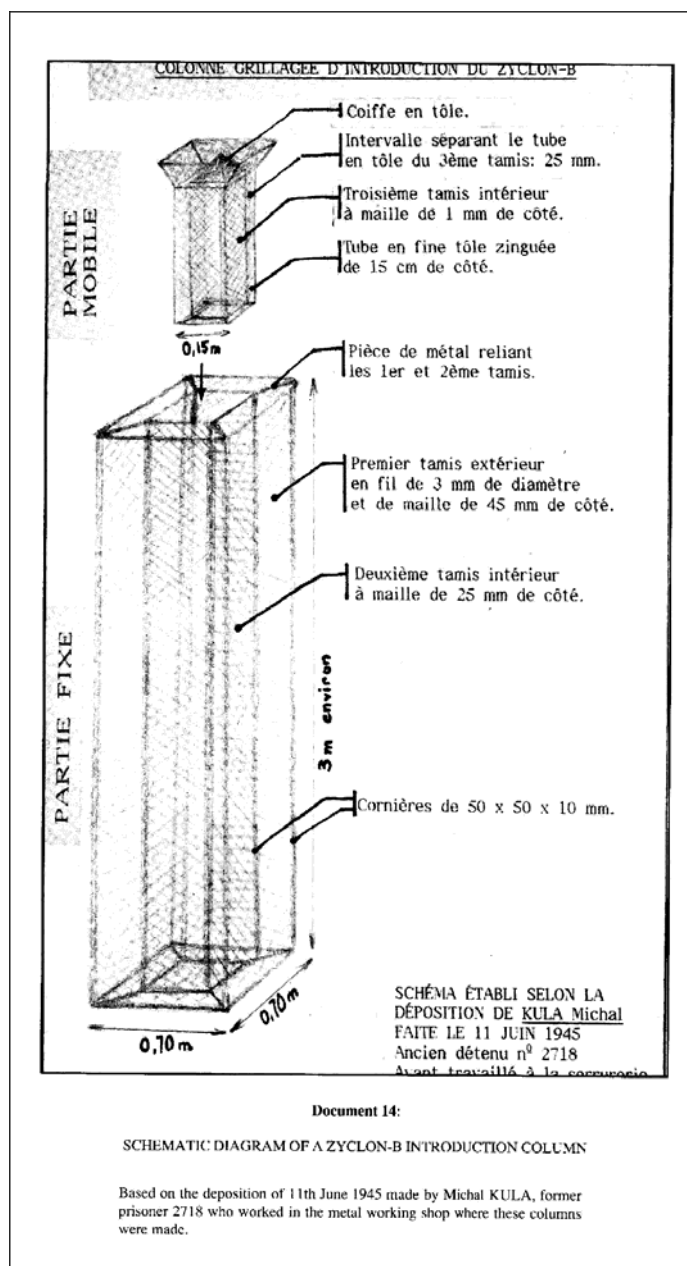


Photo 19: Drawing of Zyklon B introduction device by J.-C. Pressac, following the description of M. Kula.

In this regard, the expert toxicological report made by Dr. Jan Z. Robel on December 15, 1945, specifies that:¹⁰⁶

"4 complete and 2 damaged shutters from ventilation apertures were received on May 12, 1945; these were found during inspection of crematorium II in Birkenau and originated from the ventilation apertures of the gas chamber [morgue no.1] in this crematorium."

The inspection of this presumed gas chamber must have been very thorough, because it led to the discovery of the above six shutters.¹⁰⁷ Moreover, these were not found by accident but were searched for because Jan Sehn knew of the ventilation system for morgue 1 either from the crematory plans later analyzed by Dawidowski or from the register of the locksmith workshop, from which could be seen that this workshop manufactured 50 shutters of this type for crematorium II.¹⁰⁸

Nevertheless, Prof. Dawidowski did not mention any holes in the ceiling of this locality in his specialist report that listed nearly all the "criminal traces" that were later taken up by Pressac (including various photographs and eight plans of the crematoria). As for the presumed devices for the introduction of Zyklon B, he limited himself to stating:¹⁰⁹

"Then an SS-man wearing a gas mask opened from the outside the trapdoors of the apertures in the ceiling of the gas chamber and poured the contents of cans of Zyklon B into the evaporation column of [wire] nets which was situated beneath these holes."

Why did Prof. Dawidowski not mention the most important evidence, that of hole no. 2 in the ceiling of morgue 1? If it existed, this hole could not have escaped the notice of Jan Sehn during his inspection of May 12, 1945. In my opinion, the hole was made during the investigation by Jan Sehn in order to discover proof or evidence of the presumed criminal activity of the SS in this locality. However, it cannot be excluded that the Soviets had previously made it for the same purpose.

A final observation: Pressac has published a sketch of the device described by Kula in the chapter dedicated to the witness Tauber, which Provan has read with particular care and from which he has taken two citations. As photograph 19 shows, this drawing indicates both the dimensions of the sides (70 cm x 70 cm) and the documentary source.¹¹⁰

Furthermore, the work *Anatomy of the Auschwitz Death Camp*, which Provan knows well since he cites it in note 35 on p. 10, has a chapter written by Franciszek Piper with the title "Gas Chambers and Crematoria," where one reads in connection with the testimony of Michal Kula:¹¹¹



Photo 26: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Opening 2 in October 1991. Inside the morgue on the floor a square concrete lid can be seen stemming from the sewer manhole of this crematorium.

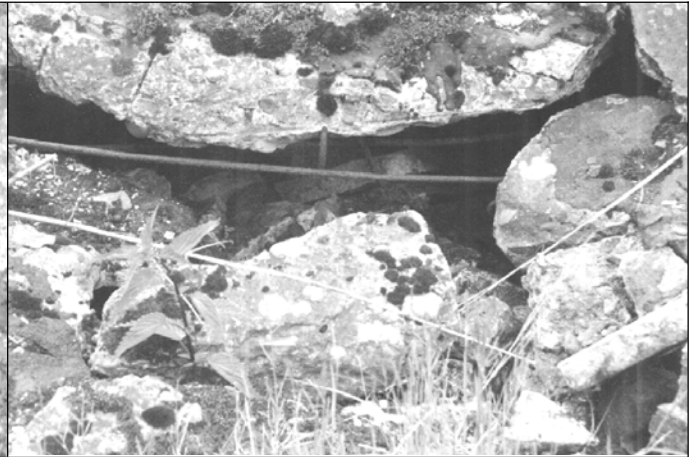


Photo 27: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Provan's opening no. 6 in June 1990.



Photo 28: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Provan's opening no. 6 in August 2000.



Photo 29: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau. Provan's opening no. 8 in August 2000.



Photo 30: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in August 2000. Line of the crack, to which Provan's opening no. 8 belongs – to the right of this photo (see photo 31).



Photo 31: Concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in Birkenau in August 2000. Opening 8 (in the center) and continuation of crack (see photo 30), of which opening 8 is a part.

All photos © Carlo Mattogno

"Zyklon B was distributed in the gas chamber through four introduction columns custom-made in the metalwork shops of the camp. They were shaped like pillars and made of two wire grids with a movable core. Cross sections of the pillars, 3 m high, formed a square, each measuring 70 cm."

In spite of this, Provan never mentions it in his study. Why? And why did he fall back on the irrelevant testimony of Karl Schultze? Evidently it is because the evidence of Kula regarding measurements does not agree at all with any measurements for the holes that are found in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II.

HOLE NO. 7

Study of hole no. 7 allows one to better understand the transformation over the years of hole no. 2.

Provan accepts the revisionist argument that this hole *"cannot be a Zyklon B insertion hole, for the simple reason that up until a few years ago, the rebars originally running west to east were merely cut at the western end and pulled up and over toward the east. (This was true, though now only one of these rebars remains intact; the rest, as we have observed, have been removed). The Germans would have never constructed a poison gas aperture like this, since it could not be airtight."* (p. 26)

In fact, in 1990 this hole was as it appears in photograph 20.

From the eastern edge of the concrete on the roof of the morgue, five iron bars of length up to 40 cm are bent back; moreover, two transverse iron bars delimit the northern and southern sides of this hole (see photograph 21) whose edges show evident traces of chiseling.

These iron bars were still intact in 1991 (see photograph 22) and in 1992 (see photograph 23).

In 1997 only two iron bars remained,¹¹² and the hole had been crudely squared (photograph 24). Finally, in 2000 there remained only a single iron bar (photograph 25).

Having established that this was not a hole for the introduction of Zyklon B and that it was not made by the SS, the question remains: who made it and why?

It is certain that this hole and also hole no. 2 were made after the collapse of the locality's roof and were later tampered with to make them look like holes for introducing Zyklon B. In order to complete this theater, a concrete cover from one of the inspection manholes for the sewer of the crematorium (photograph 26) – that Pressac had earlier found next to this hole¹¹³ – was dropped into hole no. 2.

In conclusion, if there really were four 70 cm × 70 cm square holes in the ceiling of morgue 1, what need would

there have been, even for research purposes, to create new holes, even smaller ones?

THE "CRIMINAL" HOLES NO. 6 AND NO. 8.

Let us consider the holes regarded by Provan as "criminal." Hole no. 6 (photographs 27 and 28) is a crack clearly caused by the collapse of this part of the roof onto supporting pillar no. 6, exactly like hole no. 1. This does not even have a definite shape like holes no. 2 and no. 7.

The hole no. 8 (Photograph 29) forms a part of a long fracture in the roof of the morgue, due to the fact that this part of the roof separated from the exterior wall (evident in the background of Photograph 30) and collapsed onto Pillar 6 (that appears around the right of the fissure) and Pillar 5, not visible, which is found to the left, under the roof, in connection with the start of the fracture.

This fracture continues to the right of pillar 6 in a large crack in which the lattice of iron rods of the reinforcement is clearly visible (photograph 31).

Hole no. 8, like no. 6, is a simple fracture without definite shape. Moreover, as can be seen in the enlargement of photograph 29, a good half of its area (the upper part) is crossed by four iron bars, which confirms on the one hand that we are dealing with a fracture caused by the collapse of the roof, and, on the other, which excludes the possibility that it was an introduction hole for Zyklon B, as Provan admits is the case for hole no. 7. In fact, accepting the revisionist thesis, he denies that this hole served for introducing Zyklon B precisely because of the previous presence on its edges of the reinforcing iron bars (p. 26).

THE "CHIMNEYS"

There is another important problem, to which Provan has not paid the slightest attention: the question of the little "chimneys" supposedly constructed on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II and whose purpose was to house and protect the metallic nets for introducing Zyklon B – chimneys, which as we have seen above, protruded by 41 cm above the level of the roof. According to Tauber, these chimneys were closed "with a concrete cover" (p. 4), so they must have been made from bricks – something otherwise obvious – and these bricks had to be held together with either cement or lime mortar. Nevertheless, inside the holes now existing in the reinforced concrete roof there is no trace of these "chimneys," and it is impossible that the explosion, which destroyed morgue 1, caused a disappearance of all the bricks and mortar from which they were made.

THE HYPOTHESIS OF ROBERT JAN VAN PELT

In his report for the Irving-Lipstadt trial, van Pelt pro-

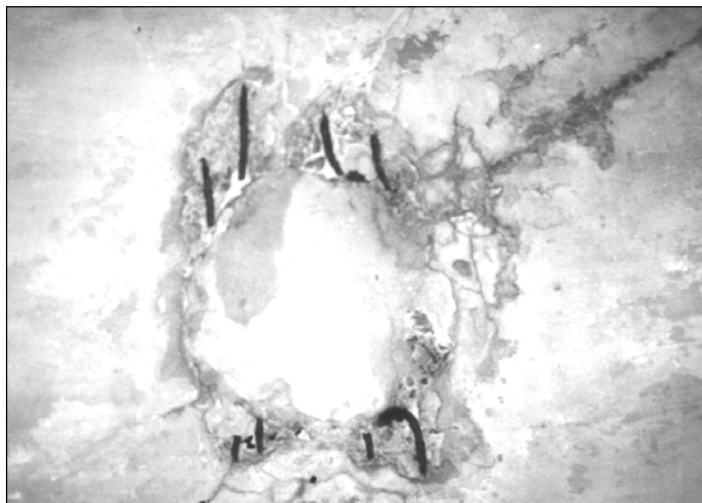


Photo 32: Ceiling of the morgue of crematorium I, August 1997. The traces of a circular opening for the ventilation of the air raid shelter. © Carlo Mattogno



Photo 33: Inside of morgue 1 of crematorium II, July 1992. © Carlo Mattogno

vided a peculiar argument to explain the absence of holes in the roof of morgue 1. In fact, he takes it to be "logical" that these holes for the introduction of Zyklon B were closed again by the SS before they blew the roof of the crematorium sky-high!¹¹⁴

Therefore, the SS would have worried about the Soviets finding traces of the holes for the introduction of Zyklon B and then have left in their hands 5,800 eyewitnesses to the alleged homicidal gassing as well as the entire archives of the Central Construction Office!¹¹⁵

And all this without taking into consideration the fact that the closure of a big hole in a roof of reinforced concrete would have left easily visible traces, as can be seen in the ceiling of the morgue of crematorium I! When at the end of 1944 this crematorium was transformed by the SS garrison physician¹¹⁶ into a "gas tight surgery room," round holes for the ventilation piping were made in the ceiling of the former morgue, now subdivided into small rooms. In fact, the August 26, 1944, letter of chief of air protection SS *Obersturmführer* Josten mentioned:¹¹⁷

"Manufacture of the openings in the masonry necessary for the heating ovens, as well as for the ventilation outlets and intakes and pipes."

But since the external wall of the morgue was covered with earth (just like the opposite wall on the side of the furnace room), it is clear that holes for the piping of the ventilation system were made in the ceiling. They were subsequently closed again, but in the ceiling of the locality there remain traces still easily recognizable, as can be seen from photograph 32.

In morgue 1 of crematorium II, a large area of the ceiling is preserved around pillar no. 1, a zone in which the first hole for the introduction of Zyklon B should be found. Yet from the inside, the ceiling shows no sign of

having been closed again, and this should have been even more evident because the ceiling still preserves the outline of planks used for the original carpentry work.

Photograph 33 shows a section of the ceiling of morgue 1 (east side).

Van Pelt's hypothesis is therefore totally untenable.

8. The Reliability of Witnesses Tauber and Kula

Having established that there are no introduction holes for Zyklon B in the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II, and that there never were any, it remains to explain the concordance between the testimonies of Kula and Tauber.

It must first be established whether the devices described by the two witnesses were effectively constructed.

If Kula had really built the device he describes, then it was ordered from the inmates locksmith shop of the Central Construction Office by means of a specific order, as we have seen in Section 7. But if this is true, this order ought to appear in the register of the locksmith shop.

On July 25, 1945 – some months after witnesses Tauber and Kula had been heard – the examining magistrate Jan Sehn drew up a record, in which he summarized all orders relating to the crematoria that had been found in the above register:¹¹⁸

"There are in the book, among other things, the following entries that refer to work done by the locksmith shop in relation to the construction and maintenance of the crematoria."

Then follows the list of entries of the orders of the Central Construction Office relating to the crematoria. Yet in this long list – which contains 85 orders – the device described by Kula is missing.

Because the first entry is an order slip of the Central

Construction Office dated October 28, 1942,¹¹⁸ the absence of the device described by Kula is not for chronological reasons. Its absence is neither for reasons of "secrecy," since in the register various orders are recorded relating to gas-tight doors for the alleged gas chambers in the crematoria.¹¹⁹

On the other hand, even one piece of work carried out by Kula personally appears in the register. In fact, Jan Sehn writes at the end of his list:¹²⁰

"Moreover, under the current number 433 of the book there is an entry dated May 20, 1943, with the following drift:

'X-ray station women's camp: object: 2 pieces connection pieces for rubber hose. Delivery time – urgent. Hand to Prof. Schumann. Executor: Kula. Finished: 21.5.43.'

Compare the interrogation record of witness Michal Kula dated June 11, 1945."

Jan Sehn knew therefore perfectly well that Kula's statements about the columns for introducing Zyklon B had no documentary basis and were therefore false. But when at the hearing of March 15, 1947, during the Höss trial Kula testified as a witness¹²¹ and once again provided the above description of the columns,¹²² nobody confronted him with the fact that the relative order did not appear in the register of the locksmith shop. And the reason for this is easy to understand.

Moreover, something even more surprising is that during his interrogation on June 11, 1945, Kula made explicit reference to the above work done for Dr. Schumann, giving the exact number of the relative order in the register of the locksmith shop.¹²³

"From the book of the locksmith shop it emerges that at the time I had to repair this pump / running no. 433."

Hence, he already knew this register, but then why did he not indicate any "running number" for the above-mentioned columns? In this case the response is also easy to comprehend.

It is finally necessary to establish if the testimonies of Kula and Tauber on this matter are independent of each other. Seeing that the descriptions of the columns given by these two witnesses coincide and that these columns were never constructed, it is clear that we are dealing with a concordance of falsehood, so that the question of independence of the testimonies becomes irrelevant. It remains a fact, however, that Tauber and Kula remained at Birkenau until the 18th and 21st of January 1945 respectively, and, considering the close contact that detainees maintained (above all those who belonged to various resistance movements in the camp), the independence of the testimonies seems exceedingly dubious.

9. Conclusions

The thesis of holes for introducing Zyklon B in the reinforced concrete roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II is based exclusively on statements made by self-styled eye-witnesses, in particular by Michal Kula, and there is neither documentary nor material proof to support it. In their turn, these statements have no verification, either documentary or material, so they are totally unreliable. In its present state, the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II shows no holes for the introduction of Zyklon B, nor is it possible that they were later closed without leaving any trace. Therefore these holes never existed. This does not justify the slogan "No Holes? No Holocaust," but fully justifies the following conclusion:

No holes, no homicidal gas chamber in crematorium II

*No homicidal gas chamber in crematorium II,
no homicidal gas chamber at Auschwitz.*

No Holes, No Gas Chambers!

Abbreviations

- AGK: Archiwum Głównej Komisji Badania Zbrodni w Polsce (Archives of the Central Commission of Inquiry into German Crimes in Poland), Warsaw.
- APMO: Archiwum Panstwowego Muzeum Oswiecim-Brzezinka (Archives of the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau).
- IMT: International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg 1947.
- NA: National Archives, Washington D.C.
- RGVA: Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennii Vojennii Archiv (Russian State Archives of the War, ex TCIDK - Tsentr Chraneniia Istoriko-dokumental'nich Kollektii, Center for the Custody of the Historical-Documentary Collection, Moscow).

© 26 March 2001

Notes

First published as "Keine Löcher, keine Gaskammer(n)" in *Vierteljahresshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 6(3) (2002), pp. 284-304; translated by Russ Granata.

¹ Ch. Provan distributed this spiral-bound, photocopied brochure for the first time in June 2000 during the 13th IHR conference in Irvine, California, and has posted it subsequently on the Internet: <http://www.revisingrevisionism.com>; the following page numbers refer to the photocopied edition. The slogan "No Holes, No Holocaust" is attributed to Robert Faurisson.

² Printed by : Zimmer Printing, 410 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063. © 2000 by Charles D. Provan.

³ Royal Courts of Justice, verdict of Justice Gray of April 11, 2000, points 7.91-7.94.

⁴ University of California Press, Berkeley Los Angeles, 1994, pp. 187f.

⁵ Ibidem, p.188.

⁶ Limes Verlag, Wiesbaden und Munich 1982.

⁷ Ibidem, p. 204.

⁸ Plan 933 of January 19, 1944, in J.-C. Pressac, *Auschwitz: Technique and Operation of the Gas Chambers*, The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, New York 1989, pp. 280f.

⁹ IMT, vol. XX, p. 449.

- ¹⁰ Ibidem, p. 503.
- ¹¹ Ibidem, p. 504.
- ¹² Bendel called himself "Charles Sigismund."
- ¹³ *Témoignages sur Auschwitz*, Paris 1946, p. 161.
- ¹⁴ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 286.
- ¹⁵ NI-11953. Interrogation of March 2, 1946.
- ¹⁶ NI-11390.
- ¹⁷ The ceiling of morgue 2 was 2.30 m high. J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 286.
- ¹⁸ *Dr. Mengele boncolóorvosa voltam az auschwitz-i krematórium-ban*, Copyright by Dr. Nyiszli Miklos, Oradea, Nagyvárad, 1946.
- ¹⁹ *Auschwitz. A Doctor's Eyewitness Account*, Fawcett Crest, New York 1961, p. 44f.
- ²⁰ It concerns morgue 2, the alleged "undressing room."
- ²¹ In the Hungarian original, op. cit (note 18), p. 33: "length about 200 meters".
- ²² Morgue 1, the alleged "gas chamber."
- ²³ In the Hungarian original, op. cit (note 18), p. 34: "This room has the same size as the undressing room".
- ²⁴ In the Hungarian original, op. cit (note 18), p. 35: "30 meters, the one from the other".
- ²⁵ Ibidem.
- ²⁶ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 286.
- ²⁷ M. Nyiszli, op. cit. (note 19), p. 47; op. cit (note 18), p. 37.
- ²⁸ M. Nyiszli, op. cit. (note 19), p. 43; op. cit (note 18), p. 32.
- ²⁹ M. Nyiszli, op. cit. (note 19), p. 149.
- ³⁰ Ibidem, p. 37. After November 18, 1944, Nyiszli was transferred from Crematorium II to Crematorium V. Ibidem, p. 139 and 146.
- ³¹ Provan tried to justify Nyiszli's errors by claiming that this book is a novel without historical value: C.D. Provan, *Journal of Historical Review*, 20(1) (2001), pp. 20-29, but his explanation is untenable; see my remarks in "Vulgärer Berufsbetrüger" in: *VfG* 6(2) (2002), pp. 231f.
- ³² C.S. Bendel, op. cit. (note 13), pp. 161f.
- ³³ Filip Müller, *Sonderbehandlung. Drei Jahre in den Krematorien und Gaskammern von Auschwitz*. Verlag Steinhausen, Munich 1979, p. 96.
- ³⁴ Zyklon B was not constituted of "crystals," but an inert support base – during the 1940s normally gypsum with a small amount of starch – soaked in hydrogen cyanide.
- ³⁵ Filip Müller, ibidem, p. 287.
- ³⁶ *Auschwitz: un caso di plagio*, Edizioni La Sfinge, Parma 1986; English translation: "Auschwitz: A Case of Plagiarism," *The Journal of Historical Review*, 10(1) (1990).
- ³⁷ Barbara Kulaszka (ed.), *Did Six Million Really Die? Report of the Evidence in the Canadian "False News" Trial of Ernst Zündel – 1988*, Samisdat Publishers Ltd., Toronto 1992, p. 353.
- ³⁸ Ernst Gauss, *Vorlesungen über Zeitgeschichte. Strittige Fragen im Kreuzverhör*, Grabert Verlag, Tübingen 1993, pp. 104-107; Jean-Marie Boisdefeu, *La controverse sur l'extermination des Juifs par les Allemands*, Vrij Historisch Onderzoek, Antwerp 1996, vol. I, pp. 162-165.
- ³⁹ Mission: 60 PRS/462 SQ. Exposure 3056. Can : D 1508, 31 May 1942, NA.
- ⁴⁰ B. Kulaszka (ed.9, op. cit (note 37), p. 353.
- ⁴¹ J.C. Ball, *Air Photo Evidence*, Ball Resource Service Ltd., Delta, B.C., Canada 1992; Ball, "Air Photo Evidence," in: Germar Rudolf (ed.), *Dissecting the Holocaust*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003, pp. 269-282, here p. 278f.
- ⁴² Measurement by the author among the ruins of Morgue 1 of Crematorium II.
- ⁴³ Whoever has worked in the field of building construction knows that a thin layer of cement covering a large area, if it cannot be reinforced with a scaffolding of iron rods, inevitably tends to disintegrate.
- ⁴⁴ Testimony of Rudolf Hoess taken at Nuremberg Germany, on April 1, 1946, 1470 to 1730 by Mr. Sender Jaari and Lt. Whitney Harris, pp. 17 - 19.
- ⁴⁵ Ibidem, p. 20.
- ⁴⁶ Ibidem, p. 26.
- ⁴⁷ Ibidem, p. 25. Provan cites this passage on p. 15.
- ⁴⁸ This camp never existed. It should correspond to "Sobibór," but it is absolutely incomprehensible how Höss could have transformed "Sobibór" into "Wolzek."
- ⁴⁹ NO-1210.
- ⁵⁰ Testimony..., op. cit. (note 44), p. 27.
- ⁵¹ NO-1210.
- ⁵² PS-3868.
- ⁵³ Danuta Czech, *Kalendarium der Ereignisse im Konzentrationslager Auschwitz-Birkenau 1939-1945*, Rowohlt Verlag, Reinbek 1989, p. 186.
- ⁵⁴ J.-C. Pressac, *Les crématoires d'Auschwitz. La machinerie du meurtre de masse*, CNRS Editions, Paris 1993, p. 115.
- ⁵⁵ Eugen Kogon, Hermann Langbein, Adalbert Rückerl et al. (eds.), *Nationalsozialistische Massentötungen durch Giftgas. Eine Dokumentation*, S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt/Main 1983, p. 165.
- ⁵⁶ Ibidem, p. 182.
- ⁵⁷ Testimony..., op. cit. (note 44), p. 25.
- ⁵⁸ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), document 9, plate.
- ⁵⁹ Ibidem, documents 10f. (plates).
- ⁶⁰ Testimony..., op. cit. (note 44), p. 25.
- ⁶¹ Plan 936(p), 936 (r), 1173-1174(p), 1173-1174(r), 933, 933[-934], 933[-934](p), 933[-934](r), 932(p), 932(r), 934 in: J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), pp. 268-288.
- ⁶² J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 302 ; Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), pp. 63f.
- ⁶³ On this, see my study *The Central Construction Office of the Waffen-SS and Police Auschwitz*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2005.
- ⁶⁴ D. Czech, op. cit. (note 53), p. 241.
- ⁶⁵ The one appearing in plan 2003 of December 19, 1942.
- ⁶⁶ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), pp. 311f.
- ⁶⁷ G. Rudolf, *Das Rudolf Gutachten*, 2. ed., Castle Hill Publishers, Hastings 2001, p. 88; Rudolf, *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL , 2003, p. 125.
- ⁶⁸ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), pp. 54 and 50.
- ⁶⁹ Ibidem, pp. 64f.
- ⁷⁰ W.W. Norton & Company, New York London 1996.
- ⁷¹ *Auschwitz 1270 to the Present*, W.W. Norton & Company, New York London 1996, p. 324. Plan 2003 of December 19, 1942 is published by the two authors as Plate 17 in the appendix "Plates. Blueprints of Genocide."
- ⁷² J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), p. 60.
- ⁷³ Note of SS-Untersturmführer Wolter of November 27, 1942. RGVA, 502-1-313, p. 65.
- ⁷⁴ Report no. 1 referring to construction work done on the crematoria and drawn up on 23 January 1943 by Bischoff for Kammler. RGVA, 502-1-313, pp. 54f.
- ⁷⁵ Topf, *Arbeits-Bescheinigung* of Messing for March 15-21, 1943. APMO, BW 30/31, p. 25.
- ⁷⁶ According to plan 1311 of May 14, 1942, which on November 27th was still in force. Cf. J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 294.
- ⁷⁷ Construction Report for October 1942. RGVA, 502-1-24, p. 86.
- ⁷⁸ Letter of October 14, 1942, from Bischoff to the firm Huta. RGVA,

- 502-1-313, p. 112.
- ⁷⁹ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 284.
- ⁸⁰ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), p. 60.
- ⁸¹ Ibidem, p. 34.
- ⁸² The morgue of the crematorium.
- ⁸³ RGVA, 502-1-336, page number illegible.
- ⁸⁴ *Arbeits-Bescheinigung* of Messing for the week March 8-14, 1943. APMO, AuII-BW 30/31, p. 26.
- ⁸⁵ D. Czech, op. cit. (note 53), indicates erroneously the date of March 13th (p. 440).
- ⁸⁶ Regarding this Provan writes: "The Pressac date for the beginning of gassing at Krematorium 2 is about the middle of March, 1943, so this would be the latest date for the 'installation' of introduction holes" (pp. 18f.).
- ⁸⁷ Protokolle des Todes "Der Spiegel", 40/1993, p. 162. The passage cited by Provan is in English translation on p. 4.
- ⁸⁸ Trial of Höss, vol. 2, pp. 99f.
- ⁸⁹ RGVA, 502-1-295, p. 63.
- ⁹⁰ APMO, BW 1/31/162, pp. 328-328a.
- ⁹¹ The trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 86.
- ⁹² The trial of Höss, vol. 11, cross-examination of Henryk Tauber of May 24, 1945, pp. 129f.
- ⁹³ "Za," literally "behind."
- ⁹⁴ Together with the Topf engineers Kurt Prüfer and Fritz Sander, Schultze had been abducted by the Soviets and interrogated by the KGB. Sander died already at the beginning of the interrogation following a heart attack, Prüfer died a few years later following a brain hemorrhage. The value of confessions gained by the KGB with such interrogation methods is equal to zero. See Jürgen Graf, "Anatomie der sowjetischen Befragung der Topf-Ingenieure", *Vierteljahresshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung*, 6(4) (2002), pp. 398-421.
- ⁹⁵ R. Kammerer, A. Solms (ed.), *Das Rudolf Gutachten*, Cromwell Press, London 1993, pp. 27f.; G. Rudolf, op. cit. (note 67), p. 89 (German), p. 126f. (Engl.).
- ⁹⁶ Measurement of the author. Pressac publishes 5 photographs showing the same hole, but the diameter he gives is erroneous (25 cm). J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 365.
- ⁹⁷ Measurement by the author of the ruins of Crematorium III.
- ⁹⁸ See the Topf plan D 59366 of March 10, 1942, "Schnitt b-b" where one reads: "These openings are located above the center of each oven." J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 54), document 15 (plate).
- ⁹⁹ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 367.
- ¹⁰⁰ The second hole in the attic of the furnace room is too indistinct to judge how much it has been damaged. Moreover, the damage has been caused by the collapse of the attic onto a supporting pillar.
- ¹⁰¹ J.-C-Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 338.
- ¹⁰² Michele Giua - Clara Giua-Lollini, *Dizionario di chimica generale e industriale*. UTET, Torino 1949, vol. II, under the headword "Esplosivi," p.178.
- ¹⁰³ AGK, NTN, 93, p. 29.
- ¹⁰⁴ Ibidem, p. 45.
- ¹⁰⁵ Ibidem, p. 30.
- ¹⁰⁶ Ibidem, p. 72.
- ¹⁰⁷ Photographs of two of these shutters have been published by Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 487, where they are called "galvanized sheet coverings."
- ¹⁰⁸ "18.2.43. Nr. 83. [...] 50 Stick (sic) Blechsiebe 7 x 18 cm. Liefertermin 17.2.43". Trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 83.
- ¹⁰⁹ Trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 45.
- ¹¹⁰ J.-C-Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 487.
- ¹¹¹ Yisrael Gutman, Michael Berenbaum (eds.), Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis 1994, p. 167.
- ¹¹² G. Rudolf mentions in his expert report that the Australian revisionist Fredrick Toben broke off one of these bars in spring 1997 in an failed attempt to bend it back, op. cit. (note 67), note 241, p. 228 (German), p. note 262, p. 125.
- ¹¹³ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 8), p. 229, caption for l document 46.
- ¹¹⁴ *The Pelt Report*, expert report introduced during the trial, op. cit. (note 3), p. 295.
- ¹¹⁵ D. Czech, op. cit. (note 53), p. 995.
- ¹¹⁶ The relative plan 4287 of September 21, 1944, is titled "Conversion of the old crematorium. Air raid shelter for SS hospital with a surgery room." RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 20.
- ¹¹⁷ RGVA, 502-1-401, p. 37.
- ¹¹⁸ Trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 82.
- ¹¹⁹ Order 323 of April 16, 1943, Trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 92. Other references on pages 84 ("4 gas-tight doors"), 90 ("gas tight doors"),
- ¹²⁰ Trial of Höss, vol. 11, p. 97.
- ¹²¹ AGK, NTN, 107, p. 467-523.
- ¹²² In this deposition Kula said that the columns had a height of 2.5 meters, since he believed that the ceiling of Morgue 1 had a height of only 2 meters. Ibidem, p. 498.
- ¹²³ Trial of Höss, vol. 2, p. 83.

The Openings for the Introduction of Zyklon B – Part 1: The Roof of the Morgue of Crematorium I at Auschwitz

By Carlo Mattogno

1. Transformations of Crematorium I (1944 – 1947)

During a visit to Auschwitz on July 16, 1944, SS *Obergruppenführer* Pohl approved the “Installation of a gas-tight surgery and fragment-proof shelter in the former crematorium for the garrison surgeon”,¹ which became work-site BW 98M.

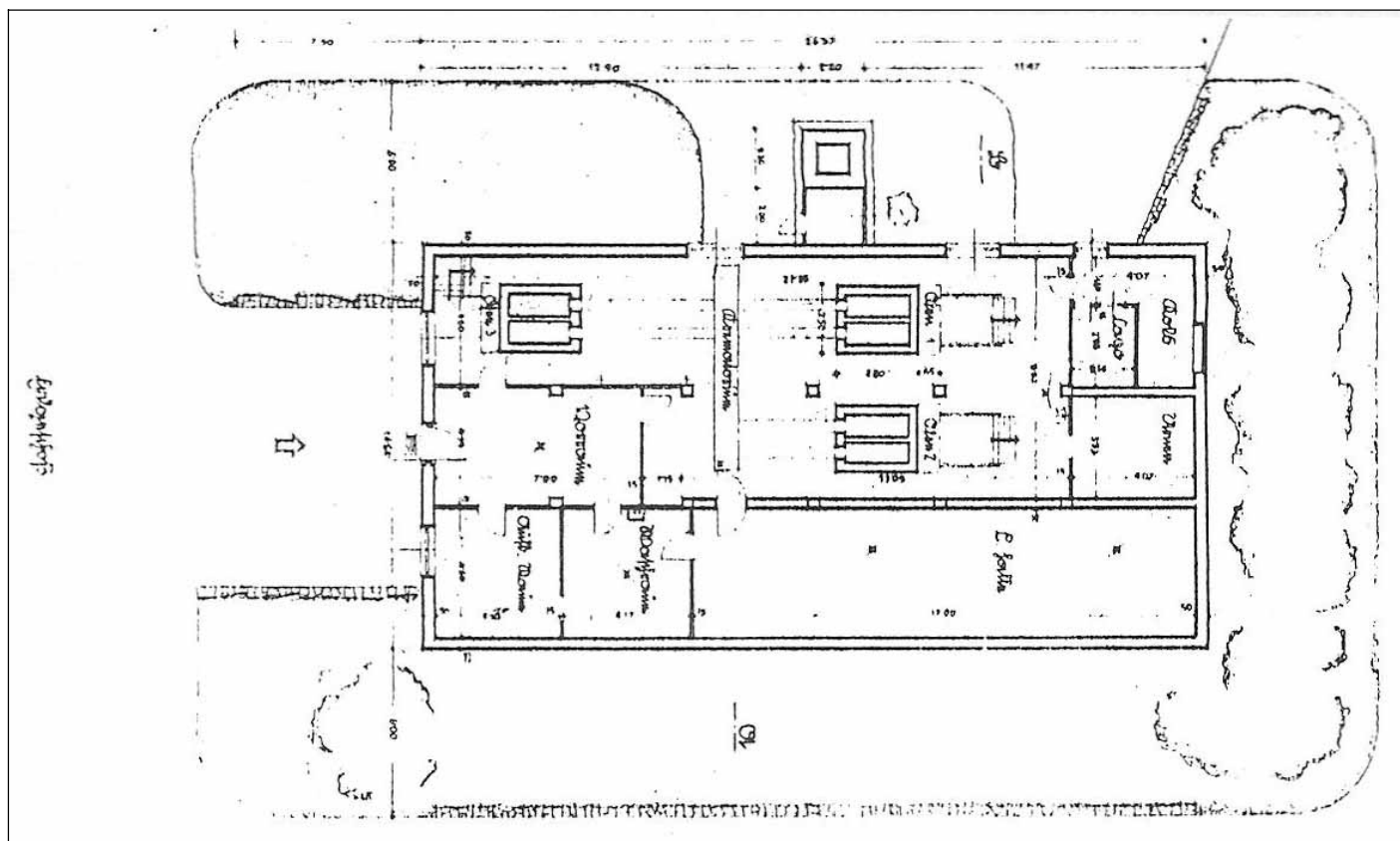
On August 26, 1944, SS *Obersturmführer* Heinrich Josten who held the post of “chief air-raid warden” wrote to the camp commander a letter on the subject of “modification of the old crematorium for air-raid protection purposes.”²

This project, entitled “Modification of old crematorium. Air-raid shelter for SS sick-bay with a surgery” (Plan no. 4287) was drawn up on September 21, 1944.³

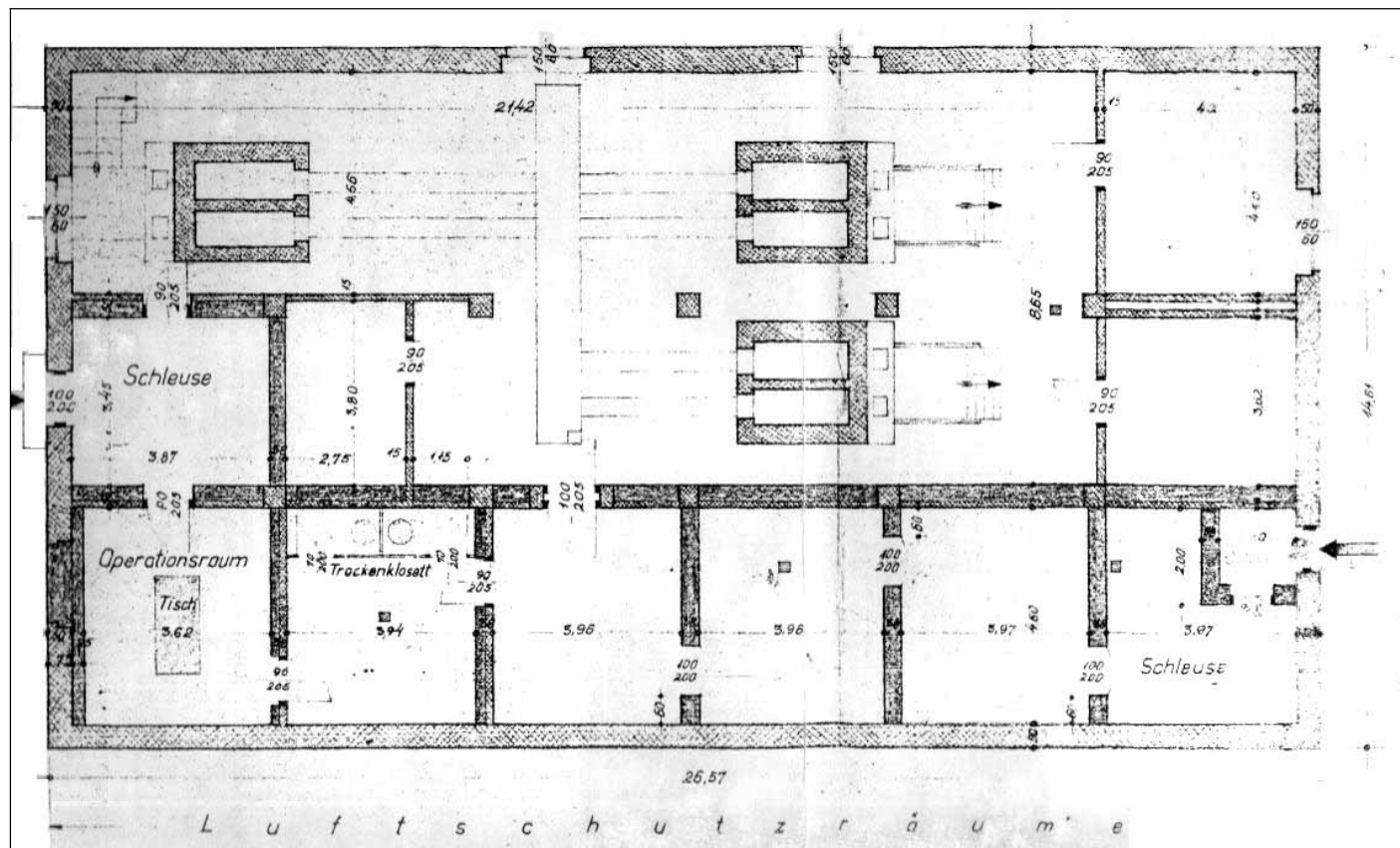
On October 17, 1944, SS *Sturmbannführer* Karl Bischoff, Head of Waffen-SS and Police Building Inspectorate “Silesia,” wrote a letter to the Central Construction Office requesting that the work, “on account of the urgency,” be undertaken immediately without going through the usual bureaucratic formalities.⁴

On November 2, 1944, SS *Obersturmführer* Werner Jothann, head of Central Construction Office, drew up an “Explanatory note re: transformation of the old crematorium into an air-raid shelter with surgery for SS sick-bay at concentration camp Auschwitz O/S. BW 98M.”⁵

The same day, he also compiled a “cost estimate for the transformation of the old crematorium into an air-raid shelter with surgery for SS sick-bay at concentration



Document 1: Inventory plan of building no. 47a. B.W. 11. Crematorium. Plan no. 1241 of April 10, 1942. RGVA, 502-2-146, p. 21. This shows the building at a time while it was allegedly used for homicidal gassings. Note: The door from the morgue (“gas chamber”) to the furnace room swings through to both sides – it could not have served as a gas chamber door, as such a door could neither be made gas-tight nor panic-proof!



Document 2: Conversion of the old crematorium. Air raid shelter for SS hospital with surgery room. Plan no. 4287 of September 21, 1944. RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 20.

camp Auschwitz O/S. BW 98M,” arriving at a total amount of 4300 RM,⁶ and drew a “Location sketch construction of an air raid shelter for SS sick-bay.”⁷ The work was completed during the second half of November.

Plan no. 1241 of April 10, 1942, tells us that crematorium I had a morgue measuring 17 by 4.60 m, connected to a “washing room” of 4.17 by 4.60 m, and a “room for laying-out of corpses,” of 4.10 by 4.60 meters.⁸

This morgue, according to the official historiography, had been transformed into a homicidal gassing chamber as early as September 1941 by equipping it with two gas-tight doors and by opening up in the flat roof an undetermined number of holes for the introduction of Zyklon B. These openings, in fact, numbered two according to Stanisław Jankowski⁹ and Hans Stark,¹⁰ six according to Pery Broad¹¹ and Filip Müller.¹² For his part, Rudolf Höß, in the session of March 12, 1947, of his trial, speaks of only one such opening:¹³

“The gassing occurred in this way: a hole was opened in the ceiling and through this opening the gas was dropped in – a crystalline mass.”

Finally, the alleged workman for the openings – the detainee Czesław Sułkowski – who should have been the person best informed about their number, size, shape and

position, actually knew nothing in this respect. In his declaration of September 28, 1971, he, in fact, limited himself to an evasive statement, saying:¹⁴

“We had first set up an oven in the crematorium. I myself did the openings in the ceiling of the morgue where the first Soviet POWs were gassed. I saw these Russians when they were taken [there]. They stood in the street near the Block leader’s room between the present hotel and the crematorium, hundreds of them, naked, waiting to be gassed. I saw SS [men] dropping the gas through the openings into the morgue.”

The transformation of the crematorium into an air-raid shelter, on the basis of the plan no. 4287 of September 21, 1944, (see document 2), was done by splitting the morgue into four rooms by means of three partitions. In the first room, on the south side, which functioned as an airlock, an entrance from the outside was opened up and a small vestibule was installed measuring two by two meters. Furthermore, the “antechamber,” which stood behind the main entrance to the crematorium was closed by means of a partition and the other walls were reinforced to make another airlock of 3.87 by 3.45 meters.

According to the letter from Josten already mentioned, “7 pcs. doors gas-tight and fragment-proof”¹⁵ had been

planned, but Jothann's estimate of November 2, 1944, mentions "6 pcs. doors simple interior."¹⁶ Actually, for reasons of economy, the camp administration had only two "gas- and fragment-proof" doors installed – those of the two airlocks (still existing). The six partitions were equipped with ordinary doors and the two small cabinets of the "dry [chemical] toilet" received two doors measuring 70 by 200 cm according to the plan no. 4287 and Josten's letter of August 26, 1944: "2 pcs. doors single 70 by 200 cm."¹⁷ But then what happened to the two alleged gas-tight doors of the alleged homicidal gas-chamber? One of them – the one which separated the morgue from the furnace hall – is said to have been dismantled (because the corresponding opening was walled up) and not

re-used;¹⁸ the other, which separated the washing room from the laying-out room, was simply removed and replaced with an ordinary door¹⁹ – and all this in a gas-tight air-raid shelter, in which every single door had to be "gas- and fragment-proof"!

Needless to say, at the liberation of the camp not the slightest trace was found of the two gas-tight doors of the alleged homicidal gas chamber and no trace of them exists in the documentation of the Central Construction Office.

Between 1946 and 1947, the Poles, in an effort to re-constitute the "original state" of the alleged homicidal gas chamber, demolished not only the three partitions mentioned above, but also the one, which separated the

morgue from the washing room. In the space thus obtained, they created four openings – the alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B – into which they inserted small wooden casings with lids (see documents 11 and 12). Today, the alleged gas chamber of crematorium I is, therefore, 21.32 m long, i.e. 4.32 m longer than the original room. The Poles also re-opened the door linking the morgue with the furnace room (which had been walled up by the SS), but moved it half a meter out of its original position and gave it a rather crude shape.

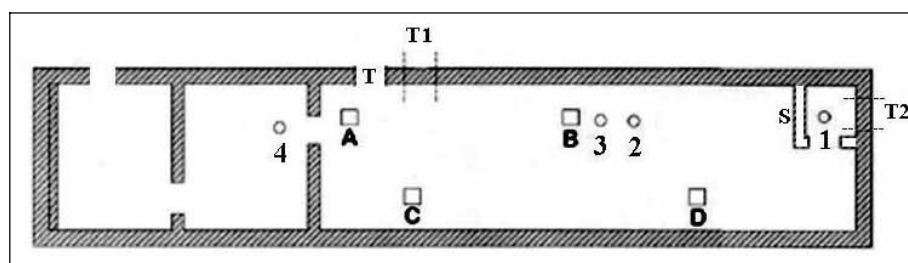
2. The Alleged Openings for Introducing Zyklon B

2.1. JEAN-CLAUDE PRESSAC'S INTERPRETATION

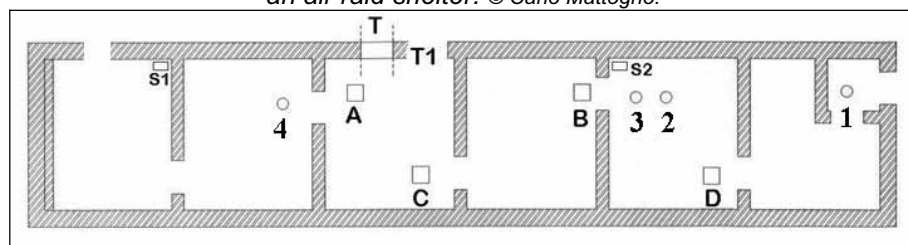
In 1989, J.-C. Pressac published one photograph from a series of shots taken by Stanisław Luczko,²⁰ probably in May 1945. It shows the flat roof of crematorium I. The French historian gave it the title "Dance on the roof of the old crematorium" and commented as follows:²¹

"View of the roof of Krematorium I, looking south-north, 1945 (May?). The chimney has not yet been rebuilt. The features of the roof are:

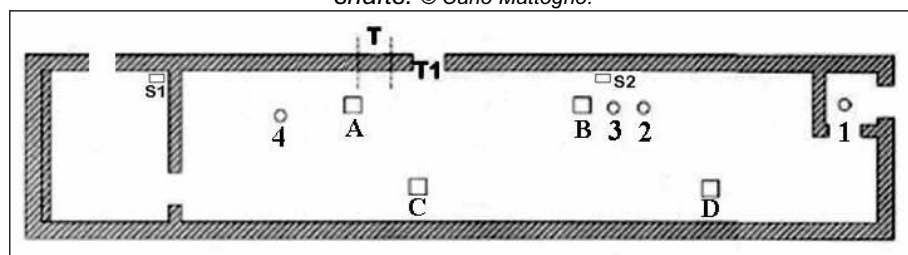
- two ventilation chimneys for the furnace room (two-tone with a dark cap)
- two other brick chimneys, probably for ventilating the air raid



Document 3: Drawing of the morgue of crematorium I with rooms to the left (original state). A,B,C,D: position of current openings in the roof. 1, 2, 3, 4: position of original openings of the air raid shelter. T: original door to the furnace room; T1: current opening to the furnace room; T2: Current access door from the outside; S: Current vestibule, included when converted into an air raid shelter. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 4: Drawing of the morgue with rooms to the left after conversion to air raid shelter. A,B,C,D: position of current openings in the roof. 1, 2, 3, 4: position of original openings of the air raid shelter. T: original door to the furnace room. T1: current door (both were closed during the use of this facility as an air raid shelter). S1, S2: position of air raid shelter's ventilation shafts. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 5: Drawing of the morgue with room to the left, current situation. A,B,C,D: position of current openings in the roof. 1, 2, 3, 4: position of original openings of the air raid shelter. T: original door to the furnace room. T1: current door. S1, S2: position of ventilation shafts. © Carlo Mattogno.

shelter in view of their newly-built appearance – in addition, on a line parallel to and to the left of that on which the two brick chimneys are built, it is possible to see THREE places where the former traps for introducing Zyklon-B have been filled, thus indicating that the morgue had been used as a gas chamber.

Above the stage, dominated by a red star with the hammer and sickle, fly the flags of Poland (left) and the Soviet Union (right), with lamps mounted above them.

This photograph proves that a dance was organized in 1945 on the roof of Krematorium I, and that people actually danced above the homicidal gas chamber. This episode appears almost unbelievable and sadly regrettable, and the motives for it are not known. This photo also proves that the present covering of roofing felt and the zinc surround of the roof are not original.”

The argument is surprising: Pressac undertakes to demonstrate the construction, in 1941, of three openings in the ceiling of the morgue on the basis of a photograph taken in 1945. Let us look into this question more closely.

The ex-detainee Adam Żłobnicki, in a statement given on November 18, 1981, made the following declaration:²²

“I remember perfectly well that the openings for the introduction of Zyklon B, which were located on the flat roof of this crematorium, were also rebuilt.^[23] The reconstruction was made easier by the fact that at the locations of the former feed openings there remained clear traces after the closing up of the former openings with cement. At these very points, the openings were re-established and the little chimneys^[24] were raised. This work, too, was done in 1946 – 1947.”

The four shafts constructed by the Poles after the war are located as indicated in document 5. They consist of two parallel pairs along the internal (A-B) and the external (C-D) wall of the morgue. The shafts C and D are 82 cm away from the external wall, shaft A is 90 cm, and shaft B 85 cm away from the internal wall. Hence, the shafts are the corners of an irregular parallelogram with a height of 2.40 m.

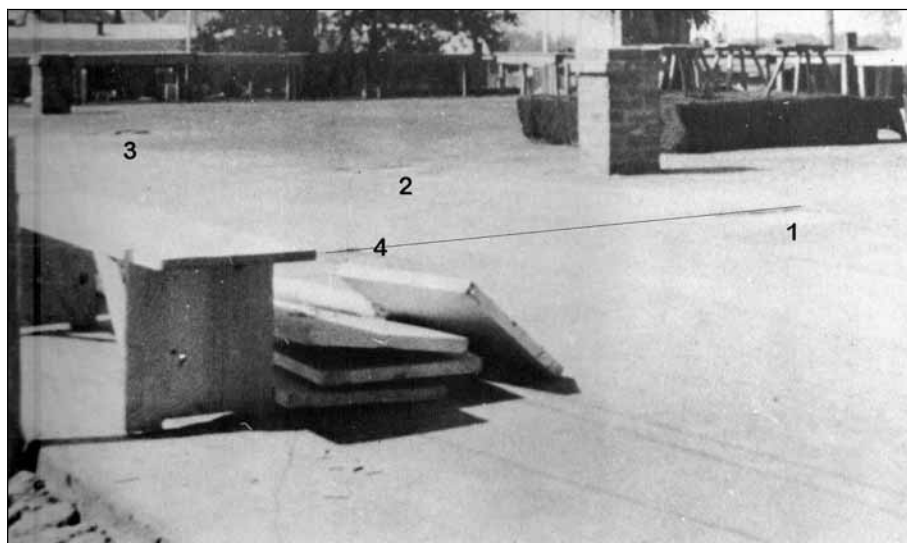
The interesting thing is that, as things stand at present, chimney D is 5.10 m from the wall with the door to the outside; chimney C is 7.10 m away from the opposite wall, which sepa-

rated the washing room from the laying-out room; chimney B is 7.10 m away from the wall of the little vestibule near the entrance; and chimney A is 5.10 m from the opposite wall.

Such an arrangement makes sense only in relation to the present state of the morgue. It is, in fact, clear that the placement of the chimneys was determined with respect to the outside walls of the present hall by a reasonable division of the available length of 21.3 meters: The shafts A and D are 5.10 m, the shafts B and C 7.10 m away from the wall. Oddly enough, the respective distance of shaft B was apparently not measured from the outer wall, but from the wall separating the vestibule. As a result, shaft B was shifted 2 m against shaft D. But at the time when the alleged original shafts are said to have been broken through the ceiling of the morgue, the wall forming the vestibule did not exist, whereas a wall separating the washing room from the morgue was still in place. This means that the locations of today's shafts make sense only when considering the current layout of this room of crematorium I. Hence, these shafts have no relation to the original state of this room.

Considering the original structure of the morgue (see document 3), such an arrangement of the chimneys is altogether senseless because chimney D would still be at 5.10 m from the wall, but chimney B would be 9.1 m away from it, while chimney A would be only 0.7 m away from the partition towards the washing room, and chimney C some 2.8 m from it.

The irrationality of such an arrangement becomes all the more apparent if we consider that, in this fashion, the



Document 6: *The roof of crematorium I, photo taken by Stanisław Luczko (probably in May 1945).²¹ 1,2,3,4: dark spots of rectangular shape on the roof felt. The arrow links the left-hand sides of spots no. 1 and 4.*

© Carlo Mattogno.



Document 7: Photo of opening no. 1 in the roof of the vestibule, part of the former morgue. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 8: Photo of opening no. 2 in the roof of the morgue. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 9: Photo of opening no. 3 in the roof of the morgue. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 10: Photo of opening no. 4 in the roof of the . © Carlo Mattogno.

rear half of the morgue, adjoining the washing room, with its surface area of (8.5 m × 4.60 m = 39.1 sqm) would have been equipped with three shafts (A, B, C); whereas the other half, of equal dimensions, would have had only one (D)!

Let us now look at the photograph from 1945 published by Pressac. The three quadrangular dark spots (designated 1, 2 and 3 in document 6) are aligned parallel to the two brick aeration chimneys, of which the first one (the one closest to the camera) is located on top of the morgue. Furthermore, the first dark spot appears to the right of the first chimney (2 in Doc. 3-5), whereas in the reconstruction by the Auschwitz Museum the alleged opening for the introduction of Zyklon B closest to this ventilation chimney (cf. docs. 3-6) is to its left. If these dark spots were the traces of the alleged Zyklon B intro-

duction openings and if, as the witness Żłobnicki tells us, the present openings were constructed at the same locations where traces of the original openings appeared, why was no opening made at the point where dark spot no. 1 can be seen? Inversely, the Auschwitz Museum had an opening done (point “C” in documents 3-5) at a point where the photograph in question shows no dark spot.

When the crematorium was transformed into an air-raid shelter for the SS sick-bay, the work sheet specified, i.a., “creation of pipes and wall openings for the heating ovens and the intake and outlet of the aeration system” and, more specifically, “5 pcs. wall openings for installation.”²⁵

However, the walls surrounding the morgue show no traces of openings; what is more, the outside wall was and still is covered with an earth embankment. This also goes

for the rear wall with the exception of the narrow passage through this embankment leading to the entrance door. On the other hand, the front wall is completely bare and has only one window on the side of the morgue. Finally the wall between the morgue and the furnace hall shows no traces of openings either, and it would have made no sense, anyway, to pierce it for the installation of stove-pipes or ventilators.



Document 11: Photo of the roof of the morgue. All four shafts constructed by the Poles after the war.
© Carlo Mattogno.



Document 12: Photo of the roof of the morgue. One of the four shafts constructed by the Poles after the war. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 13: Photo of the ceiling of the morgue. One of the four shafts constructed by the Poles after the war.
© Carlo Mattogno.

It is thus clear that the five openings mentioned above were created in the ceiling of the rooms that had been turned into an air-raid shelter.

In the ceiling of the morgue, in its present state, there are two rectangular ventilation shafts, one in a corner of the former laying-out room (the later surgery room, marked as S1 in docs. 4 and 5), the other in a corner of the second air raid shelter room seen from the entrance (S2). Due to their location, it is generally assumed that these shafts were added during the transformation of the building into an air raid shelter.

In addition to these two shafts, one can still distinguish the traces of four *circular* openings crudely walled up.²⁶ They originally had a diameter of about 35 cm. The corresponding traces are situated (as measured from their centers) at 1 m, 7.2 m, 8.5, and 18.30 m from the rear wall of the morgue (where the entrance is), and at distances of 1.0 m and 1.4 m from the wall between the morgue and the furnace hall (see docs. 7-10).

Because the morgue was 17 m long, the forth opening is located in the ceiling of the room which, in 1942, was the room where the corpses were washed (the washing room). That is the first proof that those openings had nothing to do with the alleged Zyklon B introduction devices. The second proof is their shape – circular instead of square.

We therefore have six original openings in the ceiling of the rooms investigated, four of which have been walled up at some point. The document mentioned above, however, refers only to five openings to be added.

From other documents it can be derived that there must have been a ventilation opening in the ceiling of the morgue while it was actually used to store corpses.²⁷ It can be assumed that opening no. 1 was this ventilation opening, first of all because intelligent design suggests to put a ventilation opening at one end of a long room, and secondly because the area around opening 1 turned into a vestibule on the building's transformation into an air raid shelter, for which a ventilation opening was not required.

2.2. THE INTERPRETATION BY THE HOLOCAUST HISTORY PROJECT

Of late, three members of the Holocaust History Project – Daniel Keren, Jamie McCarthy and Harry W. Mazal – have dug out the photograph published by Pressac with the aim to “correct some common misconceptions about the crematorium I gas chamber, specifically about the location of the Zyklon holes.”²⁸

Even these authors rule out the possibility that the traces of the openings 3 and 4 correspond to the rectangularly shaped spots visible on the above mentioned post-war photo as published by J.-C. Pressac, because they have a circular shape:²⁹

“At two other locations holes were sealed, but these were circular ventilation openings.”

The authors affirm that there were originally five holes in the roof of the crematorium for the introduction of the Zyklon B, a figure which is at odds with all testimonies. They identified on the photograph the traces of the fourth dark spot in the roofing felt on the roof of the crematorium (see document 6, spot no. 4.), which had obviously escaped J.-C. Pressac’s attention. They then state that four of the alleged five holes for the introduction of Zyklon B, which the Poles had constructed in the post-war years, were sunk exactly where the aforementioned dark spots were located, and labeled them Z3 [= 3 in my document 6], Z2 [= 2] and Z4 [= 4]; dark spot Z1 [= 1] was not re-opened, according to the authors, whereas dark spot Z5, which they place between Z3 and Z2, does, in fact, not appear on the photograph.

The authors claim to have identified the traces of the alleged opening Z1 on the ceiling of the morgue and present a photograph of it.³⁰ It is what remains of the opening which I called no. 2; however, it was not square – as the authors affirm – but round and was not located at the site of Z1 but some 2 m away from toward shaft B (see docs.3-5, 8).

Dark spot Z1 was located practically on the perpendicular of dark spot Z4, as results from the extension of the respective sides (see document 6), and was thus on the prolongation of the axis A-B in front of the present opening D (see docs. 3-5). In this area there is no trace of a walled-up opening in the ceiling of the morgue.

Hence, no opening in the roof of the morgue – current or former – corresponds to dark spot Z1. But then, why should dark spots Z2, Z3 and Z4 correspond to such openings?

The authors claim that, when the crematorium was converted into an air-raid “bunker,” the alleged Zyklon B introduction openings were again sealed,³¹ but this assertion, which they owe to Franciszek Piper,³² has no documentary foundation and is even disqualified by the cost estimate of November 2, 1944, mentioned above which, not only does not mention any kind of closing up of holes, but specifies the creation of five openings in walls, i.e. in the ceiling, as I have pointed out above.

The authors furthermore speak of the chemical proof.³¹

“As at the other gassing installations in the camp, cyanide compounds can still be detected in the chamber’s walls, as forensic examinations by the Cracow Institute for Forensic Research demonstrate.”

They refer here to the article by Jan Markiewicz, Wojciech Gubała and Jerzy Łabędź, “A Study of the Cyanide Compounds Content in the Walls of the Gas Chambers in

the Former Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps.”³³ Of the seven brickwork samples taken in the alleged gas chamber (numbers 16 – 22), three gave negative results (samples 18, 19 and 21) and the others showed a maximum content of 292 micrograms (0.292 milligrams) of cyanides per kilogram of substance.³⁴ Leaving aside the strange decision by the Polish scientists to drop the Prussian blue from the number of cyanides to be determined by chemical analysis (which explains the extremely low values they found compared to the samples taken by Germar Rudolf and Fred Leuchter),³⁵ another point on which the Polish chemists can be taken to task is that they did not indicate exactly from where they took their samples.

Fred Leuchter has done this. The plan of crematorium I, which is in appendix III of his report,³⁶ shows the points from where he took his seven samples in the present morgue. One of them, sample no. 28, contained 1.3 milligrams (1300 micrograms) per kilogram of substance, a value of the same order of magnitude as the other samples, except for one of them.³⁷ As opposed, however, to those samples, which were taken in the space that originally belonged to the morgue, sample no. 28 (as has already been pointed out by Enrique Aynat) was taken by Leuchter from the wall separating the washing room from the laying-out room, which was not part of the original morgue and thus not part of the alleged gas chamber.

Therefore, the presence of cyanides in sample no. 28 cannot be explained by homicidal gassings, but only by normal disinfestations (or by analytical uncertainties or variations). This raises, of course, the question, what evidentiary value similar cyanide residues can have in the first place.

3. Conclusion

The four openings now existing in the roof of the morgue are not original, and the dark spots, which appear on the photograph published by J.-C. Pressac, were not traces of openings (as borne out by the fact that no trace of a square opening on the ceiling corresponds to dark spot Z1).

Furthermore, closing up any openings in the roof of the crematorium would hardly have left depressions of such clarity. Leveling of the surface of an opening that has been filled with sand mortar and cement needs only a simple wooden board larger than the hole itself; but if one had wanted to create such depressions, it would have been necessary to painstakingly scratch out the cement from the surface of the hole filled with mortar. It would have amounted to a form of sabotage on the part of the bricklayer Kommando to leave such obvious traces of the alleged openings. No detainee would have risked that be-

cause on the inside, on the ceiling of the morgue, obvious traces of the closure of the holes would remain apparent regardless.

The detainees of the roofing detail would have had to do a similar kind of sabotage by shaping the roofing felt to fit exactly the profile of the alleged quadrangular depressions in the cement.

The explanation of the dark spots is much simpler: they were caused by the compression of the roofing felt that had become soft from sunlight, under the action of a flat and heavy object such as a cement vase or other decoration from the Soviet-Polish dance frolic – and that explains why the fold in the roofing felt is so marked along the edges instead of being slightly concave.

4. Summary

1. There is no proof that the alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B ever did exist in the ceiling of the morgue of crematorium I.
2. There is no proof that the morgue was ever equipped with two gas-tight doors.
3. In contradiction with any kind of logical planning, these alleged doors are said to have been later removed by the SS when the crematorium was converted to a gas-tight air-raid shelter, and substituted with two normal doors.
4. The traces of cyanides present in the walls of the morgue do not prove that the room was used as a homicidal gas chamber.
5. The number of openings constructed by the Poles after the war (four) is at variance with all available testimonies; this also goes for the number (five) adopted by the members of the Holocaust History Project.
6. The Polish “reconstruction” with respect to both the location of the openings and the structure and dimensions of the Zyklon B introduction shafts has neither basis in documents nor in witness statements.
7. There is no proof that the four rectangular dark spots visible on the roof of crematorium I in the photograph published by Pressac are traces of former openings that were later sealed; on the contrary, no trace on the ceiling of the morgue corresponds to dark spot 1.
8. The remaining traces of closed openings are circular and are no doubt connected to the transformation of the crematorium into an air-raid shelter.
9. The openings constructed by the Poles make sense, geometrically speaking, only in the context of the present state of the morgue, but are totally asymmetric and irrational when seen in the context of its original state. This is further proof that they have nothing whatsoever to do with any alleged original openings.

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Abbreviations

- AGK: *Archiwum Głównej Komisji Badania Zbrodni Przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu Instytutu Pamięi Narodowej* (Archive of the Central Commission of Investigation into the Crimes against the Polish People – National Monument), Warsaw
- APMO: *Archiwum Państwowego Muzeum Oświęcim-Brzezinka* (Archive of the National Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau)
- RGVA: *Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennii Vojennii Archiv* (Russian State War Archive), Moscow
- ZStL: *Zentrale Stelle der Landesjustizverwaltungen* (Central Office of the State’s Justice Administrations), Ludwigsburg

Notes

First published as “Die Einfüllöffnungen für Zyklon B – Teil 1: Die Decke der Leichenhalle von Krematorium I in Auschwitz”, *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung*, 8(3) (2004), pp. 267-274; translated by Henry Gardner.

- ¹ Letter from SS-Sturmbannführer Bischoff to Central Construction Office of October 17, 1944. RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 124.
- ² RGVA, 502-1-401, p. 34.
- ³ RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 20. Cf. J.-C. Pressac, *Auschwitz: Technique and operation of the gas chambers*. The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, New York 1989, p. 156.
- ⁴ Letter from SS-Sturmbannführer Bischoff to Central Construction Office of October 17, 1944. RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 124.
- ⁵ RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 125.
- ⁶ RGVA, 502-2-147, pp. 126-126a.
- ⁷ RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 122.
- ⁸ RGVA, 502-2-146, p. 21. Cf. document 1.
- ⁹ “Aussage von Stanisław Jankowski (Alter Feinsilber),” in: *Inmitten des grauenvollen Verbrechens. Handschriften von Mitgliedern des Sonderkommandos, Hefte von Auschwitz, Sonderheft I*, Verlag des Staatlichen Auschwitz-Birkenau Museums, 1972, p. 42.
- ¹⁰ Interrogation report, Hans Stark, Cologne, April 23, 1959. ZStL, Ref.: AR-Z 37/58 SB6, p. 947.
- ¹¹ “Erinnerungen von Perry Broad,” in: *Hefte von Auschwitz*, Wydawnictwo Państwowego Muzeum w Oświęcimiu, 9, 1966, p. 31
- ¹² F. Müller, *Sonderbehandlung. Drei Jahre in den Krematorien und Gaskammern von Auschwitz*. Verlag Steinhausen, Munich 1979, p. 62.
- ¹³ AGK, NTN, 105, pp. 110-111.
- ¹⁴ APMO, Oświadczenia, t. 74, pp. 6-7.
- ¹⁵ RGVA, 502-1-401, p. 34.
- ¹⁶ RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 12a.
- ¹⁷ RGVA, 502-1-401, p. 34.
- ¹⁸ It would have found a logical place in the small vestibule of the lock (Schleuse) which remained without a door and where there is only a light wooden door today.
- ¹⁹ The present door even has a window. Cf. document 14.
- ²⁰ APMO, sygn. 5149. Cf. document 6.
- ²¹ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 3), p. 149.
- ²² APMO, Oświadczenia, t. 96, p. 59.
- ²³ Earlier, the narrator had spoken of the reconstruction of the chimney of crematorium I that was carried out between late 1946 and early 1947.
- ²⁴ The small wooden casings set in the ceiling panels of the morgue
- ²⁵ “Kostenüberschlag zum Ausbau des alten Krematoriums als Luftschutzbunker für SS-Revier mit einem Operationsraum im K.L. Auschwitz O/S – BW 98 M,” RGVA, 502-2-147, p. 126.
- ²⁶ The room, which originally served as a laying-out chamber and in

which today the Kori oil-fired oven from the crematorium at Trzebinia is preserved, is not open to tourists. I have therefore been unable to ascertain whether its ceiling shows traces of any further openings.

²⁷ C. Mattogno, *Auschwitz: Crematorium I*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, in preparation, docs. 2 and 9; RGVA, 502-1-327, pp. 191f., 502-1-312, p. 111.

²⁸ D. Keren, J. McCarthy, H.W. Mazal, *The Ruins of the Gas Chambers: A Forensic Investigation of Crematoriums at Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau*, in: "Holocaust and Genocide Studies", vol. 9, n. 1, spring 2004, pp. 97-99.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 98.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, figure 31 on p. 92.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 97.

³² F. Piper, *Gas Chambers and Crematoria*, in: Yisrael Gutman and Michael Berenbaum Editors, *Anatomy of the Auschwitz Death Camp*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis, 1994, p. 177 note 16: "When crematorium I was converted into an air-raid shelter, the openings were bricked up".

³³ *Z Zagadnień Nauk Sądowych*, z. XXX, 1994, pp. 17-27.

³⁴ *Ibidem*, table III on p. 23.

³⁵ Cf. Rudolf's critique, *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL, 2003, pp. 270-273.

³⁶ Fred A. Leuchter, *An Engineering Report on the Alleged Execution Gas Chambers at Auschwitz, Birkenau and Majdanek, Poland*. Fred A. Leuchter, Associates, Boston, Massachusetts, 1988.

³⁷ In order, the values are as follows: 1.9, 1.3, 1.4, 1.3, 7.9, 1.1 mg/kg.

The Openings for the Introduction of Zyklon B – Part 2: The Roof of Morgue 1 of Crematorium II at Birkenau

By Carlo Mattogno

1. Analysis of a Forensic Investigation

1.1. INTRODUCTION

In the spring of 2004, Daniel Keren, Jamie McCarthy, and Harry W. Mazal published, as part of the Holocaust History Project, an article entitled “The Ruins of the Gas Chambers: A Forensic Investigation of Crematoriums at Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau.”¹ In that study, the authors deal with the alleged openings for the insertion of Zyklon B on the roof slab of underground morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau, and of the morgue of crematorium I at Auschwitz. To the second part of their “forensic investigation” I have already dedicated a specific article,² in which I have demonstrated that the claims of the authors are completely inconsistent.

In the present article, I shall examine the thesis brought forward by the authors in respect of morgue 1 of crematorium II.

Before we go into the matter itself, it must be stated that the authors have not mentioned, even in passing, my article “No Holes, No Gas Chamber,”³ which is the most detailed revisionist study of this topic to date. They have preferred to bypass my evidence and my arguments which, therefore, retain their full demonstrative force.

Obviously, the authors’ decision to remain quiet about my article is a conscious and easily understandable move, just as their decision to remain quiet on Charles D. Provan’s text “*No Holes? No Holocaust?*”⁴ – which is still the most serious treatment of this question on the Holocaust side – although in this case their motivation was different: they wanted to take advantage of Provan’s positive observations and at the same time shun his criticisms of the official thesis.

Actually, while the authors add no new element of proof to Provan’s study, they take over his argumentative structure in terms of testimonies, and terrestrial and aerial photographs (pp. 3-5)

2. A Deceptive Method

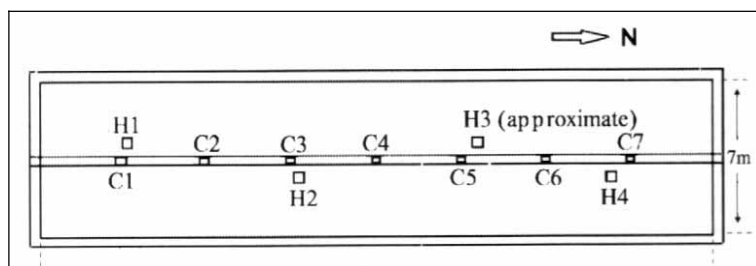
The authors’ method is simplistic and deceptive: they start from the supposedly accepted fact that on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau there had existed four openings (with external pro-

TECTIVE chimneys and internal devices for the introduction of Zyklon B) and then claim to identify them on photographs and in the ruins of the building.

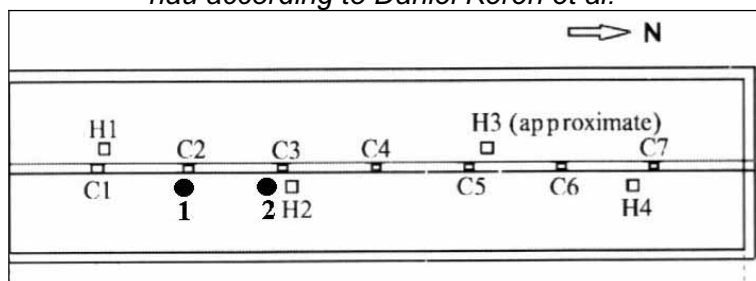
Deviating from Provan, the authors neither present nor analyze all the testimonies available in this regard, but base themselves almost exclusively on Henryk Tauber’s deposition of May 24, 1945, which, moreover, they know only through Pressac⁶ and without quoting even a single line from it! The fact that they do not mention the most prominent witness on the question of the Zyklon B introduction devices either – Michał Kula – is not really surprising. His testimony is too much at variance with their alleged “findings”, and so they just ignore him!

Let us analyze, first of all, Tauber’s deposition:⁷

“The vault of the gas chamber rested on concrete pillars which were arranged lengthwise in the center. There were four columns right and left of these pillars. The outer part of these columns was made of a grid of thick wire which extended to the ceiling and to the outside. Within^[8] this part there was a second netting



Document 1: Position of the alleged openings for Zyklon B (H1-4) in the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau according to Daniel Keren et al.⁵



Document 1a: Position of objects 1 and 2 of the “train photo” on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II in relation to the alleged openings for Zyklon B and to the support pillars of the room. Source: cf. document 1.

with smaller mesh and openings and on the inside of this a third, dense, netting. In this third netting a can moved by means of a wire, with which the powder was extracted from which the gas had now evaporated."

However, when he was first interrogated by the Soviets, on February 27-28, 1945, Tauber had declared:¹⁰

"The Zyklon gas diffused into the [gas] chamber through mesh columns which had a rectangular cross-section with walls of a double grid."

Therefore, the alleged device was not yet constituted by a triple mesh, but a double one, and did not yet have a square cross-section, but a rectangular one.

The strength of the authors' historical acumen and of their quest for the truth can be judged by their reference to another witness, Shaul Chazan (or Chasan):

"Were the wire mesh Zyklon insertion devices attached to the concrete support pillars? This hypothesis might appear reasonable, but we have found little support for it and strong evidence against it. Mr. Gideon Greif of Yad Vashem, an expert on the Auschwitz-Birkenau Sonderkommando, contacted at our request two Sonderkommando survivors who worked in Crematoriums II and III. Mr. Shaul Chazan and Mr. Lemke Phlishko both

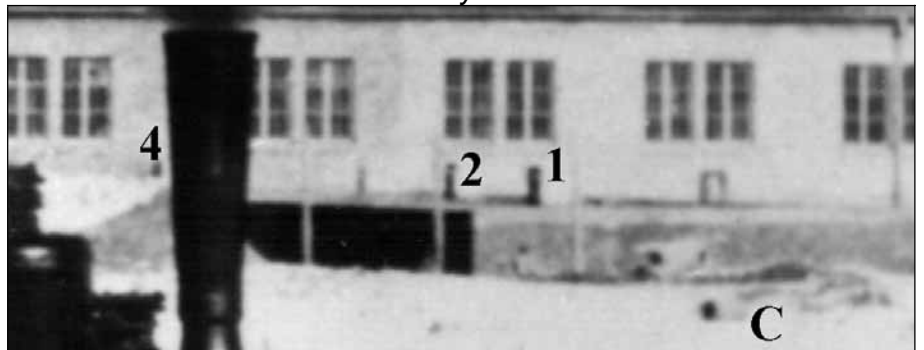
stated that the devices were not attached to the support columns." (p. 72)

stated that the devices were not attached to the support columns." (p. 72)

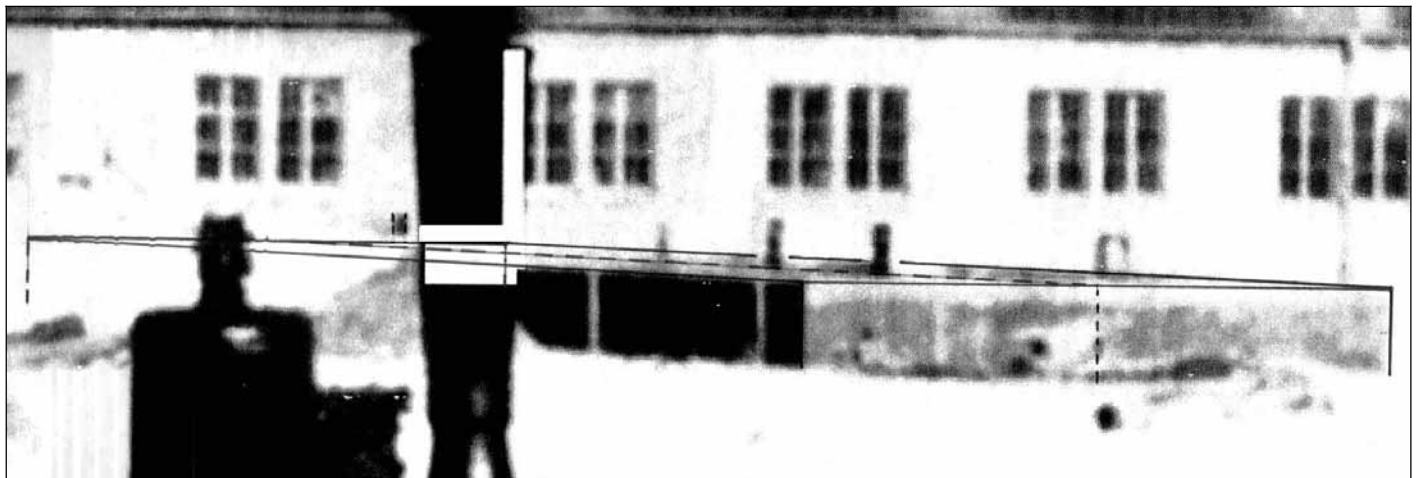
In the book of this alleged "expert on the Auschwitz-Birkenau Sonderkommando"¹¹ there is also Shaul Chazan's testimony. The dialog on the alleged Zyklon B



Document 2: Section of photograph of crematorium II at Birkenau, February 1943.⁹



Document 2a: Section enlargement of Doc. 2. The numbers 1, 2 and 4 indicate the objects or alleged Zyklon B chimneys on the roof of morgue 1. The letter "C" indicates an object of cylindrical shape.



Document 2b: Section enlargement of doc. 2. Cf. document 1. Diagram of the positions of the three objects on the morgue.

introduction devices runs as follows:¹²

[Greif] *You said that the gas was poured in through openings in the ceiling. Did it drop to the floor or on the heads of the people?*

[Chazan] *No, no, no: there were several openings there. From each opening a round grid column came down. The grid was made of metal, full of holes, from the window in the ceiling down to the floor, and the poison gas was dropped through this hollow pillar, in the form of little pebbles. Then the smell would spread, that was the gas.*

[Greif] *Did the grid column through which the gas was dropped reach all the way down to the floor?*

[Chazan] *Nearly to the floor. One had left a space which made it possible to clean there. One poured water out and brushed up the remaining pebbles.*” (My emphases)

So this “eyewitness” who did not even know the number of alleged openings speaks of a device with a circular cross-section, not a rectangular one, of perforated metal instead of wire mesh, and without a movable core for the recovery of the inert residue of the Zyklon B, because in his device, the grains of gypsum fell through the metal tube directly to the floor and were removed from below rather than from above. As anyone can see, this is a testimony in perfect “agreement” with Tauber’s.

Apart from that, a pillar that did not reach the floor had to be fastened to the concrete pillars, because otherwise it would have been demolished by the hypothetical, panicking victims. Thus, if Gideon Greif did indeed get a testimony from Shaul Chazan recently about the question of how those wire mesh columns were fastened, this can only have been a directed answer agreed upon in advance. And by the way, who could seriously claim to remember more than 60 years later such minute details as the way certain equipment in a certain room was fastened?

In my article cited above I have stressed that the “eye witness” Miklos Nyiszli, as early as 1946, had anticipated this version when he spoke of¹³

“square sheet-iron pipes, the sides of which contained numerous perforations, like a wire lattice.”

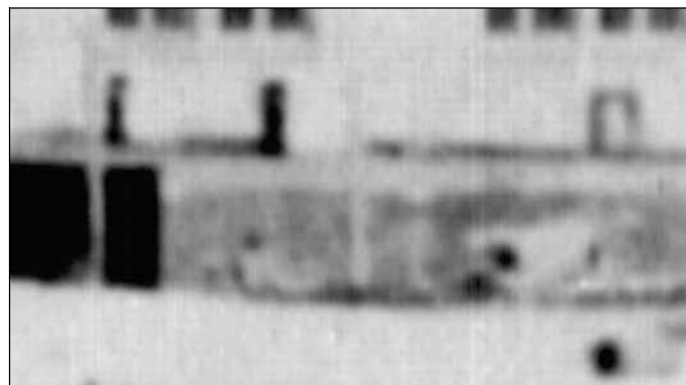
3. The Problem

The question of the openings in the roof slab of morgue 1 in crematorium II at Birkenau has three interdependent aspects, which are related to the alleged devices for the introduction of Zyklon B:

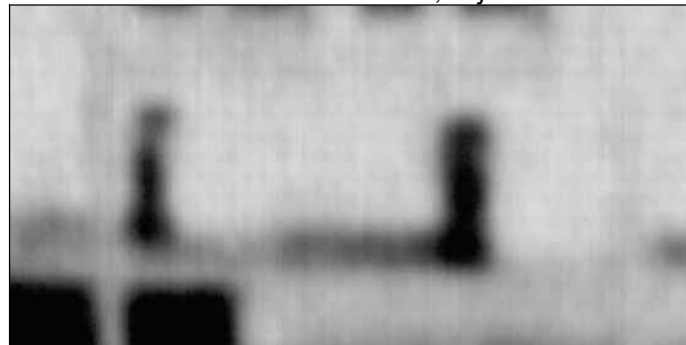
- 1) the brick chimneys with cement covers
- 2) the openings as such
- 3) the wire-mesh devices

The authors concentrate on the first two points, leaving completely aside the third, for which there is no mate-

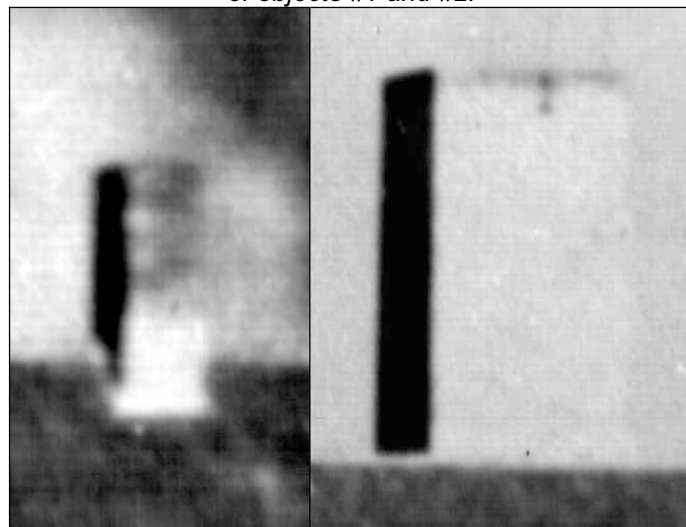
rial or documentary correspondence. While they do claim that in the context of the transfer agreement for crematorium II (March 31, 1943) the four “*Drahtnetzeinschiebevorrichtung[en]*” (wire mesh introduction devices) listed in the inventory of the basement constitute the “inner core” of the alleged devices (p. 69) they forget, however, that in this document¹⁴ these parts are attributed to morgue 2¹⁵ and not to morgue 1 (the alleged homicidal



Document 2c: Section from doc. 2, objects #1 and #2.



Document 2d: Section from doc. 2, further enlargement of objects #1 and #2.



Document 2e: Section enlargement of doc. 2: ventilation chimney for morgue 1.

Document 2f: Section enlargement of doc. 2. Chimney of the Crematorium.

gas chamber) and that they are accompanied by “4 Holzblenden” (4 wooden covers), which are claimed to be the lids of the chimneys for the Zyklon B. According to Tauber, however, the alleged lids were made of cement, and therefore the authors must have thought it would be safer not to mention these wooden covers at all.

In practice, as I have demonstrated in the article “No Holes, No Gas Chamber(s),” the alleged wire-mesh devices for the introduction of Zyklon B were never built, and so in this regard the “concordant” testimonies of Kula and Tauber are actually in agreement only in that they are untrue.¹⁶ And this demonstration, by itself, demolishes the claims of the authors.

As far as the first two aspects of the problem are concerned, the authors assume – on the basis of Tauber’s testimony – that on the roof slab of morgue 1 there were four brick chimneys with cement covers,¹⁷ which contained four openings arranged – in the same way as the chimneys – alternating to the left and to the right of the central beam, according to the drawing in Fig. 2a on p. 79 (see document 1). Neither Tauber nor any other witness,

however, ever stated that the chimneys and the holes were situated next to pillars 1, 3, 5 and 7 of the morgue, as the authors assume, and from this point of view their hypothesis has no correspondence in testimony.

The authors have, furthermore, evaded another and certainly not irrelevant question: that of the dimensions of the holes, clearly given by Kula. We shall later on elucidate why they prefer to remain silent on this point.

4. The Objects on the “Train Photograph”

In their effort to demonstrate the presence of the four presumed holes on the roof slab of morgue 1, the authors utilize three photographs – one terrestrial and two aerial.

The first is the well-known shot from the “Kamann” series of February 1943, which has been published and analyzed by Jean-Claude Pressac.¹⁹ Because of the presence in the foreground of a small locomotive with several little cars, the authors call it the “Train Photograph”.²⁰

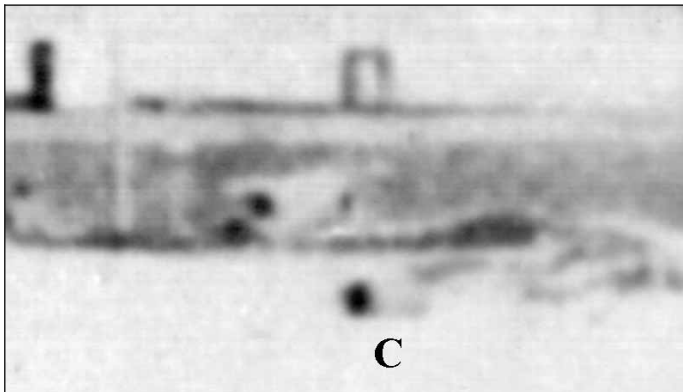
In its background, this photograph shows morgue 1 of crematorium II, on top of which there are four unidentifiable objects, which D. Keren and his colleagues take three to be the chimneys for the introduction of Zyklon B. As results from their Fig. 4 on p. 80, they claim to have identified the first two chimneys, starting from south; the third one is said to be “entirely occluded by the smokestack” of the engine (p. 71) whereas the fourth appears for them “just to the left of a locomotive’s smokestack” (p. 71, see document 2a.). The analysis of this photograph by the authors is extremely superficial and skirts purposely many essential elements.

1. First of all, let us state that the presence of chimney # 3 behind the smokestack of the locomotive is pure conjecture and does not result from the photograph.
2. Secondly, the claim that the three indistinct objects, which one can see on the roof slab of morgue 1, are introduction chimneys for Zyklon B, is likewise an undemonstrated and not demonstrable assumption, which is even, as we shall see under item 7, contrary to the evidence.

The authors attempt to lend weight to their claim by bringing in two likewise known aerial photographs of the Birkenau area taken on 25 August 1944, with which I shall deal in the next section. Anticipating their later arguments, they in fact state the following conclusion:

“That the holes alternate in Crematorium II is supported by the aerial photograph, the Train Photograph, the physical findings, and Tauber’s testimony:” (p. 72)

3. Actually, the indistinct objects taken by the authors to be chimneys 1 and 2 for Zyklon B are both situated on the eastern half of the roof of the mortuary, as shown



Document 2g: Section from doc. 2. Cylindrical object at the southern wall of morgue 1.



Document 2h: Photo of crematorium II from January 1943. Section enlargement of a cylindrical object (Metal barrel) in the foreground.¹⁸

by the corresponding diagram (see document 2b), which is at variance with their basic thesis.

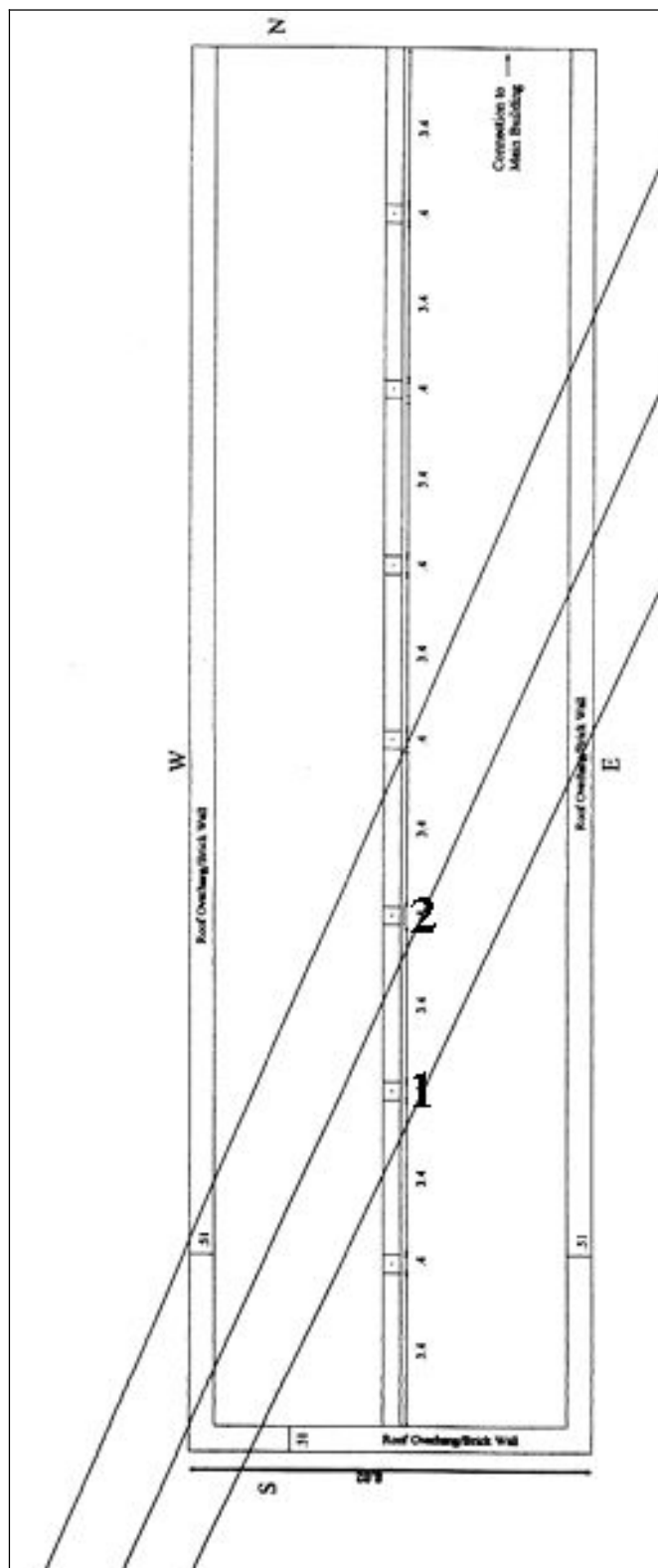
4. If one calculates the position of objects 1 and 2 along the median of the surface of the morgue, it results from this diagram that they stood at 7.2 and 10.5 m from the southern end of the morgue. This is fully borne out by the diagram prepared by Provan on which I have marked by numbers 1 and 2 the position of the respective objects (see document 2i).

This means that object 1 is situated next to pillar # 2 and east of the central beam, whereas D. Keren et al. claim that the alleged chimney 1 is next to pillar # 1 and west of the central beam. Object 2 is about 3.3 m away from object 1, whereas, according to D. Keren et al., the alleged chimneys 1 and 2 should be located about 7.6 m apart. In document 1a, I have indicated on the diagram of D. Keren et al. the position of objects 1 and 2 with respect to their alleged Zyklon B chimneys 1 and 2.

5. According to D. Keren et al., object 4 should be located slightly in front of the last pillar of the morgue, hence some 4 m from the wall of the crematorium. Instead, it is touching the wall and its height is therefore 45 cm – half the distance between the pair of windows to its left and the plane of the morgue. The windows of the crematorium were, in fact, some 90 cm above the plane of morgue 1, as shown by drawing 1173-1174 (p)²² and confirmed by the “Train Photograph”; thus the height of the object is half this distance.

If instead the object had been at the position indicated by the authors, it would be even lower because of the perspective. Already on plan 936 of January 15, 1942,²³ and in the later ones as well, a layer of earth had been specified for the top of morgue 1; plan 109/16a dated October 9, 1943, gives the exact thickness of this layer: 50 cm.²⁴ It follows that object 4, rising less than 50 cm above the concrete surface of the morgue, would have been buried in this layer of earth, therefore it could not have been a chimney for Zyklon B.

6. To the left of object 2 is another object on that roof. But because it obviously has a noticeably different shading and shape and because it is located at an inconvenient location, D. Keren et al. simply claim that this can *not* be a Zyklon B chimney. But if we are certain that there is at least one object on that roof which is *not* a Zyklon B chimney, is it not possible that the objects 1, 2, and 4 were “other” objects as well?
7. What may these objects have been? The photograph in question does not allow us to solve this riddle, but there is another photograph, also from the Kamann series, taken a few weeks earlier, which shows the

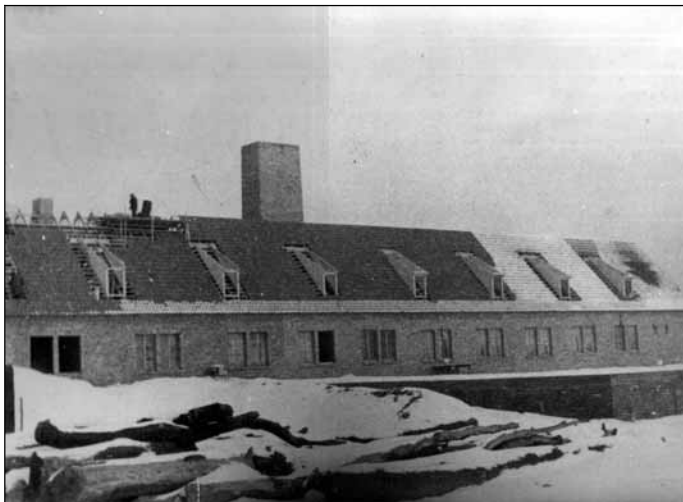


Document 2i: Triangulation diagram for the objects #1 and #2 on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium II, drawn by C.D. Provan.²¹ My numbers 1 and 2 mark the position of the respective objects. The third (left-most) line refers to an object, which D. Keren et al. do not consider to be a chimney for Zyklon B.

morgue of crematorium II in greater detail (see document 3). On this photograph the alleged chimneys for Zyklon B do not appear at all. In my article cited initially I have already demonstrated that the hypothesis of a creation of holes in the ceiling of morgue 1 for the introduction of Zyklon B is technically absurd and also in total disagreement with one of the principal tenets of the official thesis shared also by the authors.²⁵

In the photograph just mentioned, there is, on the roof of the morgue, an object with square sides, leaning against the wall to the left of the third pair of windows, which seems to be made up by a pile of boxes (see documents 3 and 3a). It is odd that the position of this object corresponds exactly to the alleged chimney 4 of the "Train Photograph". We may have here an alternative explanation of chimney # 4.

8. Let us move on to the other two objects. D. Keren et al. assume as an established fact that they were rectan-



Document 3: Photography of crematorium II in Birkenau, January 1943.²⁶



Document 3a: Section enlargement of doc. 3.

gular in shape and answer D. Irving's hypotheses as follows:

"David Irving has speculated that the holes are really 'drums containing sealant,' but it is obvious that this cannot be the case: a cylindrical object would produce a gradual light pattern, while the objects above display a sharp change between uniform light and uniform shadow." (p. 71)."

Actually, this is anything but "obvious." As is shown by an enlargement of objects 1 and 2, they have a shape that is rounded at top and bottom (see documents 2c and 2d), which is absolutely incompatible with the shadow zones of a parallelepiped; this also results from a comparison with one of the ventilation chimneys of the crematorium (document 2e) and the chimney of the ovens (document 2f).

It is therefore clear that the objects have a cylindrical shape.²⁷ But an object, cylindrical in shape, appears clearly just in front of the south wall of the morgue (see document 2g). Its dimensions, considering that the cylinder is right against the wall, are compatible with the two objects located on top of the morgue. We have here, no doubt, drums that were used during the construction. A similar cylinder, identifiable as a metal barrel, appears also in a photograph, which shows the erection of the chimney of crematorium III (document 2h). David Irving's hypothesis therefore remains the most probable one.

5. The Marks on an Air Photo of August 25, 1944

Let us move on to the second alleged proof of the existence of four chimneys for Zyklon B on the roof slab of morgue 1 in crematorium II. The two aerial photographs of August 25, 1944,²⁸ in particular the one labeled 3185 (see doc. 4), show on this surface four dark spots of irregular shapes which the authors explain as follows:

"The smudges are too large to belong just to the holes themselves. They probably correspond to the tamping down of a trail on the roof by the SS men detailed to introduce the canisters. The photograph shows the smudges alternating slightly, Holes 1 and 3 to the west, 2 and 4 to the east. A Sonderkommando survivor, Henryk Tauber, considered a reliable witness on technical issues, testified that the holes in Crematorium II were on alternating sides." (p. 72)

The authors had the photographs analyzed by "an expert on aerial photo interpretation, Carroll Lucas", none other than the "expert" previously picked by that expert in trickery, John C. Zimmerman!²⁹ A few pages on, they report his findings:

"It is impossible to observe the Zyklon holes themselves in any of the aerial photographs. [...]."

Mr. Lucas analyzed the two August 25 photos showing the roof of the Crematorium II. [...]. After careful study Mr. Lucas identified four small objects within the smudges, all slightly elevated above the level of the roof. Stereo imaging allows observation of even small objects in grainy images, very difficult or impossible to detect in separate images, as is well demonstrated by 'random dot stereograms.' In all probability, these correspond to the four 'chimneys' above the holes in the roof, as clearly visible in the Train Photograph. Thus, the aerial photographs add further support to the witness testimonies and to Train Photograph. With regard to the dark smudges and related findings Mr. Lucas summarized his conclusions as follows:

a) 'The roof of the partially underground wing of the Crematorium contains four raised vents, possibly with covers larger than their exits'.

b) 'The four dark areas observed on the Crematorium II roof (on positive prints) are compacted soil, produced by the constant movement of personnel deployed on the roof, as they worked around the vents.' [...].

c) 'The thin dark lineation (on positive prints) interconnecting the dark areas is a path of compacted earth produced by personnel moving from vent to vent.'

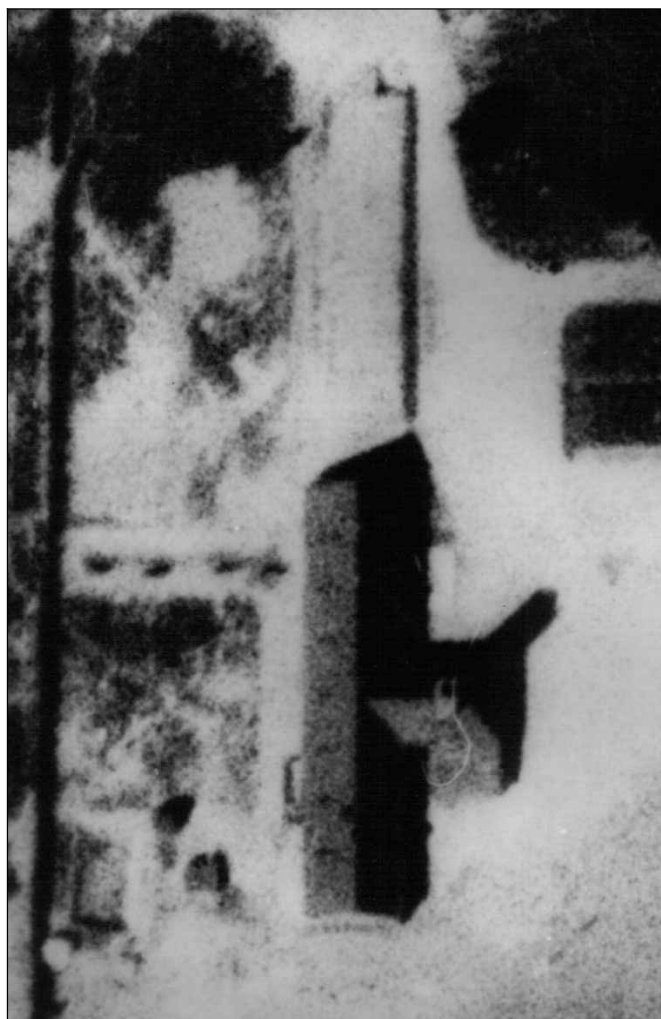
d) 'The dark area connecting this path to the edge roof from the vent nearest to the Crematorium roof is an extension of the path which shows where personnel gained access to the roof - possibly using a short ladder leaned against the roof.'

e) 'The evidence provided by this analysis lends credence to the fact the vents existed and were used in a way consistent with statements from multiple witnesses.' (pp. 95f.)

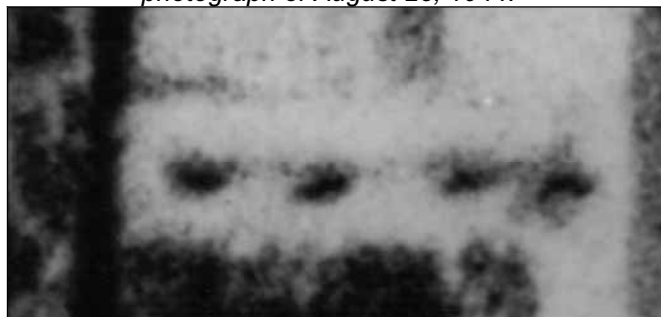
We will look at the soundness of these observations.

I note, first of all, that the claim of the authors that "the photograph shows the smudges alternating slightly, Holes 1 and 3 to the west, 2 and 4 to the east" is wrong. It is sufficient to delineate the shape of the morgue and to draw in the central beam that ran through it lengthwise to see that, in reality, the four smudges are all on the eastern half of the roof slab, as is clearly shown in document 4b. This deals the authors' thesis a decisive blow.

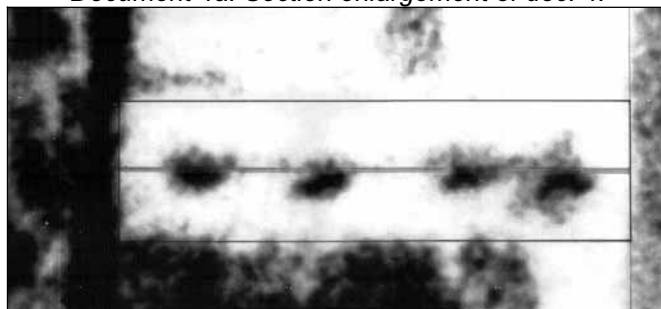
Their comment on Lucas' observations is really incredible: they state that "it is impossible to observe the Zyklon holes themselves", but still Lucas did identify "four small objects within the smudges," which, however, are "very difficult or impossible to detect in separate images." In other words "the four small objects" cannot be seen, but – in an act of faith – they still have to be there!



Document 4: Crematorium II at Birkenau in the aerial photograph of August 25, 1944.³⁰



Document 4a: Section enlargement of doc. 4.



Document 4b: as doc. 4a. Position of dark spots.

Finally, these objects, invisible as they are, correspond “in all probability” to the chimneys for Zyklon B!

What are Lucas’ observations?

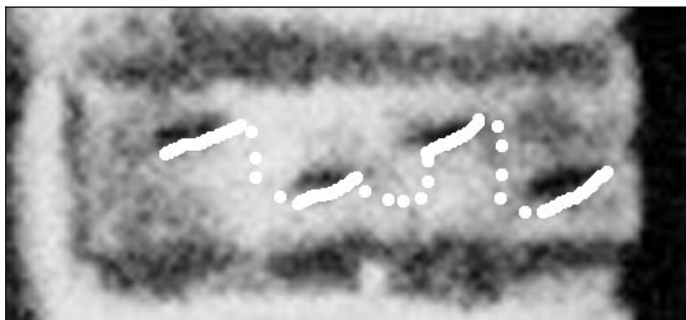
- a. He claims that the cover of morgue 1 shows “four raised vents, possibly with covers”: but how can he make a statement like that if it is impossible to observe the four alleged objects in separate images? And how was he able to see even the covers (!) of the alleged chimneys?

Here, our “expert” has been somewhat imprudent, because he uses the term “vents.” Now, as the authors explain in the introduction, the alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B are “sometimes called vents” (p. 68) in English. As the objects are invisible and hence unidentifiable, Lucas’ statement is not technical but purely propagandist: he simply claimed to have seen what the authors had wanted him to see. This ideological and propagandistic character of Lucas’ declarations clearly shows through also in his further statements.

- b. He claims that the smudges one can see on the cover of the morgue “are compacted soil, produced by the constant movement of personnel deployed on the roof, as they worked around the vents.” Even assuming that this is technically sound – which, as we will see, it is not – we again run into the propagandist motivation: the smudges were caused by the personnel assigned to the gassings! How does he know that? An impenetrable mystery!

Let us analyze his technical explanation. The Birkenau area is known to be sandy. On the photograph in question the soil of the inner yard of crematorium II (but also at crematorium III) is white, except for areas with flower beds or vegetation. So, by what extraordinary physico-chemical phenomenon would the white sand have become black when it was repeatedly walked on by a pair of SS men?³¹

The authors come up with yet another and even



Document 4c: Dark smudges on the roof of morgue 1 of crematorium III (from same photo as doc. 4): allegedly caused by SS men walking from one chimney to another. But consider the path they must have taken: walking in an angle for 4 meters, then leaping to the next spot!

more nonsensical explanation. The “inner core” of the columns, i.e. the alleged movable “can” into which the Zyklon B was poured, had been “temporarily removed and propped against the small chimney that housed the Zyklon insertion devices” (p. 97). But, according to Kula, this “can”

“was an empty column made of a thin zinc lamina with a square section of about 150 mm.”³²

It was correctly drawn by Pressac.³³ But if the Zyklon B chimneys, which according to the authors measured “about 60 x 60 cm” (purely invented dimensions), are completely invisible in the photographs in question, how can anyone claim that devices 15 by 15 cm and at most one meter long could create smudges of some 3-4 meters?

- c. Lucas’ statement that the four smudges are linked to “a path of compacted earth produced by personnel moving from vent to vent” is likewise propagandist. As long as the objection in relation to the change of color of compacted sand remains valid, on what grounds can one assume that the presumed compacting had produced “a path” and that it had been produced by the SS personnel allegedly assigned to the gassings?
- d. Lucas claims furthermore to have identified, west of the fourth dark spot, the access “where personnel gained access to the roof”. It takes some imagination to see in this extension of the smudge a footpath, all the more so since this extension finishes half-way between the smudge and the outer edge of the morgue (see doc. 4a). And if applied to morgue 1 of crematorium III, it becomes totally absurd (see document 4c): There the dark smudges run in a distinct angle, which would mean that the SS men were walking from one chimney to another in odd angles for some 3-4 meters, then suddenly leaping 3 to 6 meters to the next spot – without run-up!

That Lucas’ observations have no technical relevance but are only propagandist in nature results finally from an important fact, to which he has obviously paid no attention at all. The ground of the yards in crematoria II and III consisted of the same sand which (presumably) covered morgues 1 and 2. From the point of view of the official historiography, if Lucas’ explanation were true, the thousands upon thousands of Jews who had trodden this sand before being gassed in these two crematoria should have created a literal highway of dark sand, from the gate of the yard to the entrance of morgue 2, the alleged undressing room. But the aerial photographs do not show even the slightest trace of supposedly compacted dark sand. But then how can anyone seriously argue that the smudges on morgue 1 have been caused by the sand be-

ing compacted under the boots of two men?

This shows how much the opinion of this “expert” is really worth.

The aerial photographs of May 31, 1944, are known for not showing dark spots on the roof of morgue 1 of the crematorium. This is how the authors explain that fact:

“One possible explanation is that the camouflage in the Crematorium area in general, and the gas chamber in particular, changed over time. [...]

It is therefore reasonable to assume that between May 31 and July 8, the earth banks were flattened and the roof covered with earth. This newly placed earth was compacted by the SS-men climbing onto the roof and walking between the holes.” (p. 96)

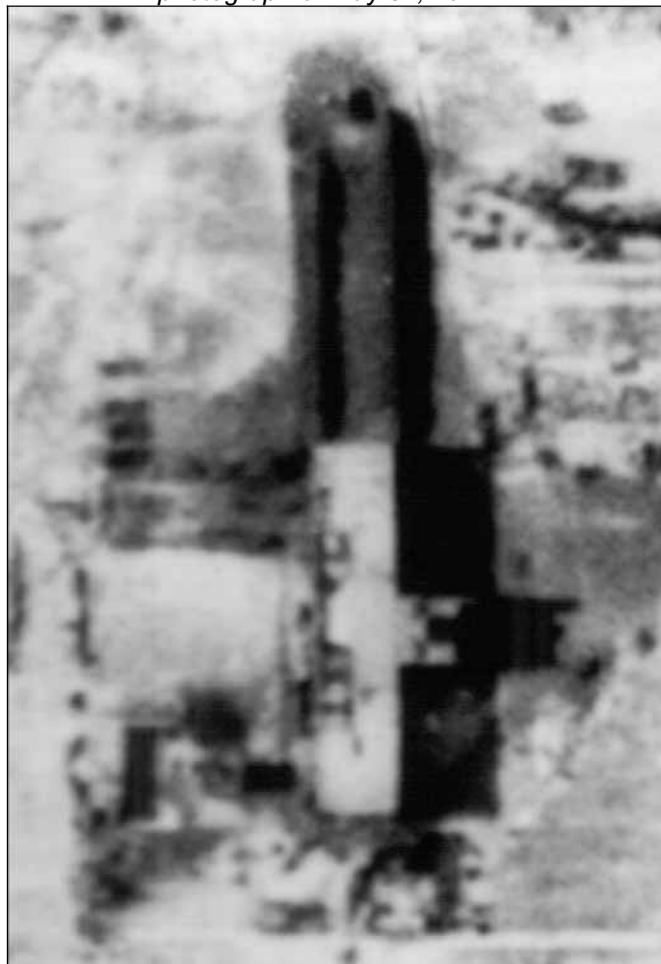
I will stress, first of all, that the conjecture of the authors regarding the nature and the development of the spots is unfounded. Secondly, the camouflage of the crematoria consisted merely of a fence to be built around them. The respective order was given to the Central Construction Office by SS *Brigadeführer* Hans Kammler, head of Office Group C at the SS-WVHA, by telegram on May 12, 1944.³⁴ On May 16th, SS *Obersturmführer* Werner Jothann, head of Central Construction Office, drew up a list of the quantities of steel needed for the fence,³⁵ which, according to the respective “situation map,” was to be a rectangle of 100 m by 125 m around each of the crematoria II and III, and of 75 m by 100 m around crematoria IV and V.³⁶

The aerial photographs of May 31, 1944, show, for crematorium II, a fence that is nearly complete, except for the south-east corner (see doc. 5). A letter from SS *Sturm-bannführer* Karl Bischoff (then head of Construction Inspectorate of the Waffen-SS “Schlesien”), dated May 17, 1944, explains that the fences were “Security measures (camouflage) of the crematoria in KL Lager II Auschwitz.”³⁹ In this context, one cannot understand the sense of “camouflaging” the morgues 1 by covering them with sand. We have already seen that the earth cover was already specified in plan 936 of the crematorium, dated January 15, 1942. A further photograph from the Kamann series published by Pressac,⁴⁰ probably dating from the summer of 1943, shows the southern part of morgue 1 covered by sand and grass⁴¹ which, in perspective, almost touches the seventh and eighth pair of windows (from north). As opposed to this, the surface of the roof of the morgue in the “Train Photograph”, published by Pressac on the opposite page, appears to be much lower with respect to the windows of the crematorium.

Summarizing, in the summer of 1943 morgue 1 of crematorium II was surely covered with a layer of sand; later, the sand is supposed to have been removed from the roof of this room and then put back some time between



Document 5: Crematorium II in Birkenau in an aerial photograph of May 31, 1944.³⁷



Document 6: Crematorium II in Birkenau in an aerial photograph on Dec. 21, 1944.³⁸

May 31 and July 8, 1944. Such a hypothesis on the part of the authors is really not very “reasonable.”

In my article mentioned above I have explained the spots on the morgues, assuming that in 1944 the roof was

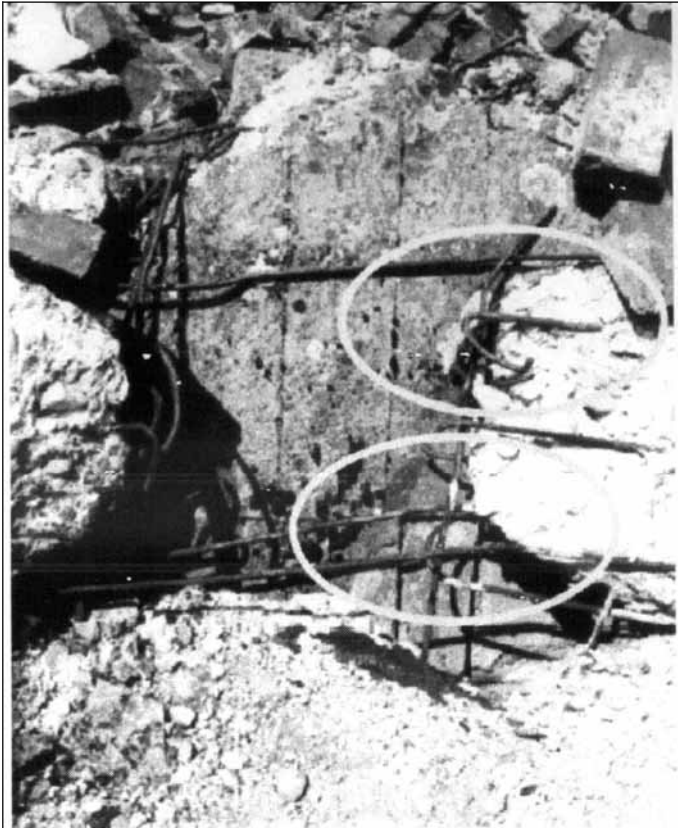
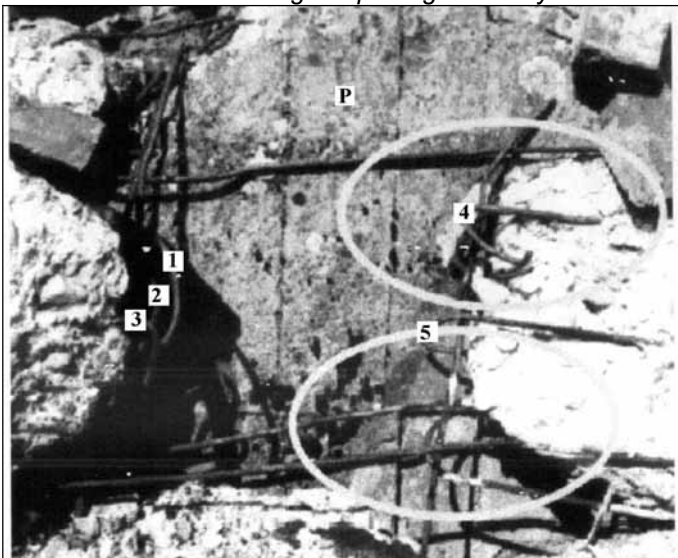


Figure 16. Remains of fourth (seen from south) Zyklon hole. Rebar skirts two sides, ends at other two sides bent inward and looped back. Note rotated roof slab showing formwork on inner side.

*Document 7: The alleged opening #4 for Zyklon B.*⁴³



Document 7a: as doc. 7, the pillar and the bent rebars marked.

devoid of sand, as results clearly already from the first photograph of the ruins of morgue 1, dating from 1945.⁴²

The aerial photograph dated December 21, 1944, confirms this fact (see doc. 6). It shows crematorium II being dismantled. Morgue 2 appears to be uncovered; the roof and a large portion of the chimney have been taken down. Morgue 1 shows quite angular contours, which means that the concrete cover was surely laid bare.

On the roof slab one can see two dark spots, more or less where spots 3 and 4 appeared in the photograph taken on August 25, 1944. Parallel to them there are two more spots along the eastern edge of the roof slab. Another, fainter spot appears roughly where the first spot shows up in the photograph of August 25, 1944, but it extends eastward into another equally faint spot. The second spot of the photograph of August 25, 1944, does not show up this time. Together, this confirms that the explanation of the spots given by the authors is completely unfounded.

6. The Openings in the Ruins of the Roof Slab of Morgue 1 in Crematorium II

The authors claim to have found, in the ruins of morgue 1 of crematorium II “strong physical evidence” (p. 73) of three out of the four presumed holes for the introduction of Zyklon B.

Before we take a closer look at their “discoveries,” it is necessary to make a few remarks.

1. First of all, the authors refer to an “architectural rule”, already distorted by Provan, according to which⁴⁴

“when violent stress is put on a concrete structure, cracks show up passing through holes made previous to the violent force, since the holes makes the structure weaker in that location.”

The authors use Provan’s untenable hypothesis and argue, that the violence of the explosion would have broken up the smooth edges of the alleged openings which, therefore, are no longer recognizable as such. Actually, as I have demonstrated by means of photographs, the smooth edges of the five rectangular ventilation openings in the ceiling of the furnace hall of crematorium III and of the round opening of the de-aeration tube in the ceiling of morgue 2 of crematorium II have remained practically intact in spite of the violent explosion, which ripped the rooms apart; The respective openings are perfectly identifiable as such.⁴⁵

2. The identification of the alleged openings was done by the authors at home in their office, and in the most wilful manner: they have simply selected from the large number of holes and cracks of all shapes and sizes, which can be found in the ruins of the roof of morgue 1, those that are closest to their assumed

pattern of the positions of the alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B.

3. In their fictitious identification, the authors have been careful to leave out the most important testimonial element regarding the dimensions of the alleged openings, because none of the holes they have so laboriously identified agrees with these dimensions.

Michał Kula, the self-styled maker of the alleged wire-mesh columns for the introduction of Zyklon B, has in fact declared that they had a square cross-sectional area of 70 cm × 70 cm and were 3 meters high, thus rising through the ceiling and protruding from it by (300 – 241 – 18 =) 41 cm.⁴⁶ For the installation of such a device it was therefore necessary to make an opening in the reinforced concrete slightly larger than 70 cm × 70 cm. Any brick chimneys would have measured at least (12 + 70 + 12 =) 94 cm × 94 cm (and not 60 cm × 60 cm, as the authors assert), because the standard bricks of the type “Altes Reich” at the time had a thickness of 12 cm.

4. Finally, the authors assume that the ruins at the time of their investigations (1998 – 2000) were exactly the same as those at the end of 1944 when the SS blew up crematorium II – as we shall see, this is a totally unsound hypothesis.

6.1. OPENING #1

The authors state:

“Hole 1 is the opening in the roof near Pillar 1 (Figure 11a). The pillar remains standing and protrudes through the surface of the roof (Figure 10b), which shifted as it collapsed. While it might appear at first glance that the opening could just as easily have been created by the explosion, careful examination proves thus was not the case. Portions of straight, flat edges and a 90-degree angle survive intact, though most of the concrete around the edge was damaged by explosion. The center of this hole is 4.1 m from the southern end of the roof slab, and 0.75 m west of the roof’s center. We estimate its size approximately 0.5 m square; this places its eastern edge at 0.3 m west of the western edge of the central

support beam.” (pp. 74f.)

This opening corresponds to Provan’s opening # 2. In the article mentioned at the beginning of this text I have already amply demonstrated that this is not an original opening but was produced by the Soviets or the Poles in 1945.⁴⁷

I will add here that the claim of the authors that, in this opening, “portions of straight, flat edges and a 90-degree angle survive intact, though most of the concrete around the edge was damaged by explosion”, is true, albeit on a very small scale, but, as I have demonstrated by means of photographs which I have taken over the years, this rough squaring of the hole was carried out between 1992 and 1997 by a pious pair of hands from the Auschwitz Museum wanting, in this way, to render the tale of the Zyklon B openings more credible. In this respect, I have in fact stated:⁴⁸

“Between 1992 (photograph 14) and 1997 (photograph 15) the hole has been coarsely enlarged and squared by blows with a chisel.

As can be seen from a comparison of the photographs 16, 17 and 18, hole no. 2 appearing in the photograph of 1945 has been successively enlarged, especially in its eastern part.”



Document 8: Morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau. Concrete pillar protruding from concrete roof slab and the crack produced by the pillar. August 2000. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 9: One of the supporting blocks for lamps in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau. October 1991. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 10: Another one of the supporting blocks for lamps in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau. October 1991. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 11: Recess in the concrete ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau for a supporting block for the lamps. July 1992. © Carlo Mattogno.



Document 12: Morgue of crematorium I at Auschwitz. One of the blocks set into the center of the supporting beam of the ceiling. October 1991. © Carlo Mattogno.

When it comes to the dimensions of the opening, the authors state that it measures about 0.5 meters square. In June 1990, this opening had a trapezoidal shape, the longest side measuring 86 cm, and a maximum width of 50 cm, the narrowest being 43 cm. However, as already stated, according to the witness Kula, the openings should have been at least 70 by 70 cm. One can thus easily see why the authors do not even in passing speak of Kula!

Van Pelt had already prepared a little sleight of hand to solve this problem. He had, in fact, presented a drawing,⁴⁹ which purports to show the make-up of the device described by Kula but which actually contains a diverging and arbitrary element: a constriction of the column at the level of the ceiling, with the width of the device dropping from 70 cm in morgue 1 itself to 48 cm within the roof slab and on the outside. The authors will, no doubt, resort

to this sleight of hand when they are confronted with Kula's testimony.

6.2. OPENING #2

Opening 2, as results from figure 12 reproduced by the authors on p. 85, is the same as Provan's opening #6. Actually, we are dealing here with a simple fissure caused by the crash of this part of the ceiling onto the sustaining pillar #6; this is shown clearly by my photographs 27 and 28.⁵⁰ In an effort to create the illusion that this crack is instead an opening that existed before the explosion, the authors are obliged to use a tedious expedient: to draw into this shapeless crack a dotted square which is to show the outline of the presumed original opening. To this square, they assign sides of 0.5 by 0.5 meters (p. 75), again at variance with those given by Kula: 0.7 by 0.7 meters.

6.3. OPENING #3

In this respect, the authors write:

“Hole 3’s projected location is in an area of the roof that is badly damaged and covered with rubble”.

Unfortunately they had not received permission from the Auschwitz Museum to disturb the rubble (p. 75), so the presumed opening does exist, but it cannot be seen!

In reality here, too, the authors again take recourse to an ordinary trick. Their photograph of the area in question (figure 15 on p. 85) presents a very restricted field of vision and was taken from the west looking east. It is sufficient to widen the field of vision and to invert the position (from east looking west)⁵¹ to realize that this area is not only not particularly “badly damaged” but that we have here two long cracks (one of which is Provan’s opening #8). These cracks have so little in common with the alleged openings for Zyklon B that the authors preferred to remain quiet about them and would rather have us believe that an invisible opening 3 does indeed exist!

6.4. OPENING #4

The identification of opening 4 is decidedly more fanciful. The authors explain:

“Hole 4 can be identified by a pattern in the rebar (Figure 16) at the very northern end of what remains of the roof. [...] Hole 4 can be identified by the unimpeded square opening set in the rebar in 1943. The surrounding edges were shattered by the explosion and the folding of the roof, leaving only the telltale rebar latticework. Its measurements are 0,5 x 0,5 m. [...] The deliberately looped rebar proves that this hole, as almost certainly the other three, was cast at the time the concrete was poured in January 1943.” (pp. 75f.)

Let us examine the photograph of this alleged Zyklon B opening (see documents 7 and 7a). The first thing that strikes the eye is the supporting pillar for the morgue ceiling, which protrudes from this hole; the vertical traces of the planking used in the construction of this pillar are clearly visible, as are the ends of the steel rods sticking out of its top. The crack is clearly the result of the ceiling crashing onto this pillar. In fact, as the authors concede, “the roof shifted considerably when it collapsed after the explosions,” which means that the ceiling rose and then fell back with its central beam out of line with the row of pillars, some of which pierced the ceiling. This is borne out by the fact that next to the alleged opening 1 one can see the top of the first concrete pillar, which has pierced the roof of the morgue creating an opening of its own (see document 8).

Secondly, this crack does not have proper sides, to say nothing of smooth edges, which would not have disappeared altogether as demonstrated by the vents of the fur-

nace hall of crematorium III or the ventilation hole of morgue 2 in crematorium II.

Thirdly, in the square formed by the rebars, to which the authors attribute so much importance, the lateral bars have not been cut as would have been necessary to erect the brick chimneys around the opening, but only bent: in document 7a, I have numbered 1-5 those that can be seen best, with “P” standing for the pillar.

The claim of the authors that this square of rebars is a direct proof that it was created in 1943 is frankly ridiculous. Over the years, the ruins of morgue 1 of crematorium II have undergone work and manipulations on several occasions. I will limit myself to the best documented ones. First of all, as early as 1946 the ruins of morgue 1 were the object of soundings and diggings undertaken by the expert Roman Dawidowski who worked under the orders of judge Jan Sehn.⁵²

In 1968, a group of Germans did precise archeological research and diggings at this site. Pressac has published four photographs thereof.⁵³

Furthermore, between 1990 and 2000 the alleged opening 1 – as I have already stated – was enlarged and squared. Provan’s opening #7 has undergone similar manipulations: in 1990, it presented five rebars up to 40 cm long bent backwards; in 2000, the opening had been roughly squared and four of those rebars had been cut.⁵⁴

How is it possible, then, to claim seriously that, in 1998, the status of the rebars in the alleged opening 4 reflects the original conditions? And how can one take such stupidity to be a “proof”? The authors just did not know what to base themselves on to “demonstrate” the existence of the fourth alleged Zyklon B opening!

7. Robert Jan van Pelt’s Hypothesis

In his brief for the Irving-Lipstadt trial, van Pelt has retained as “logical” that the alleged openings for Zyklon b in morgue 1 of crematorium II had been refilled by the SS before they blew up the ceiling of this room.⁵⁵

The authors hold this hypothesis to be unfounded and support their opinion with these arguments:

“It has been further hypothesized that the difficulty of locating the four holes may have reflected their having been filled in before the destruction of the chamber. This does not seem likely for Crematoriums II and III. The original roof consisted of three layers: a thick stone aggregate concrete slab underneath; a thinner, finer sand-aggregate concrete mixture above; and waterproofing bituminous tar paper in the middle. It is unlikely that the SS would have thought it necessary to duplicate this work, or that they could have done so in four places without leaving a trace. There are considerable areas of the original ceiling visible

from under the slab but these show no signs of tampering. In Crematorium I the holes were filled when the structure was converted to a bomb shelter for the SS (date unknown).” (p. 73)

Let me stress right away that, on account of a kind of understandable reticence, Keren, McCarthy, and Mazal did not want to come out and say that the author of such nonsense was none other than their greatest expert on Auschwitz, Robert Jan van Pelt!

Much more important, though, is the fact that the arguments used by the authors are exactly those I had used in the article mentioned initially, including the reference to the ceiling of the alleged gas chamber in crematorium I,⁵⁶ which presents clearly apparent traces of four round openings, which have been filled in but which have nothing to do with the alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B.² A case in point? Whichever way it is, the authors have recognized the full validity of my argumentation.

8. “Additional Findings”

The authors present further “additional findings,” the most important of which, with respect to the presumed extermination, are the following three:

1. A SMALL OPENING

The first is “a small rectangular 4 x 10 cm aperture” in the ceiling of the morgue (p. 93). The authors explain its function as follows:

“It was possibly fitted with a removable gasket that allowed the insertion of a detector to test the concentration of gas: it is known that the crematoriums were equipped for this purpose.” (pp. 93f.)

Aside from the fact that there is no proof of this opening being original, the authors’ explanation is funny rather than unfounded, because they, like all the other nincompoops of their ilk, believe that a “detector” for hydrocyanic acid was some kind of mechanical device that could be placed into the “gas chamber”. As all revisionist scholars know, the “Gasrestprobe” for hydrocyanic acid involved reactive cardboard strips soaked in a chemical solution which was prepared on the spot.⁵⁷ Hence, that opening, if it really is original, could be used for anything but what the authors maintain.

2. SHOWER HEADS

The second “discovery” consists in the finding, within the area of morgue 1, of a disc from “a probable false showerhead” (figures 22 and 23 on p. 88), of which no one knows when or by whom it was thrown where the authors found it. Scenarios like this are not uncommon.

As early as the 1980s, Pressac had found near the hole,

which the authors take to be opening 1, a cement cover of one of the inspection shafts of the sewer in the crematorium, which I, in 1991, found in the opening.⁵⁸ As we have already seen, Tauber had stated that the presumed chimneys for the Zyklon B had cement lids, and one of his zealous admirers must have felt a duty to create a “converging proof” by means of this kind of arrangement!

As far as the tale of the fake showers is concerned, so cherished in the holocaust literature, I have already demonstrated in another article that the Central Construction Office, within the framework of the “special measures for the improvement of hygienic installations” in the Birkenau camp ordered by Kammler in early May 1943, had planned a “shower installation for detainees” in the basement of crematoria II and III and that the 14 showers, which are mentioned in the transfer agreement for crematorium III of June 24, 1943 (inventory of morgue 1), belonged to this project and were real.⁵⁹

3. PIECES OF WOOD

The final “discovery” of the authors is a series of rectangular blocks set into the ceiling of the morgue:

“A number of small (approximately 10 x 15 x 4 cm), rectangular cast indentations can be seen in the ceiling of the gas chamber. At least six of these are visible in those portions of the ceiling presently accessible from below. [...] One important detail must be emphasized: the indentations containing the wooden blocks were purposely built into the ceiling of the gas chamber from the very moment the roof was built.” (p. 94)

These blocks had already been seen by Pressac in the 1980s: in his first book on Auschwitz he showed two photographs of them, assuming that they were wooden bases for fake showers.⁶⁰ The authors do not say so explicitly, but clearly want the reader to believe this; they claim, in fact, that “this fixture” – i.e. the disc of the alleged fake shower and the rectangular blocks – “undoubtedly formed part of the elaborate plan to keep the victims ignorant of their fate as long as possible” (p. 95). Is there any foundation to this explanation?

In June of 1990, having attentively read Pressac’s first book on Auschwitz, I went to Birkenau for the first time, accompanied by two engineers; one of our very first investigations concerned precisely these blocks, which I photographed repeatedly, also during my later visits (docs. 9 and 10). Inside the morgue I identified eight of them (including the empty holes in the concrete, which had originally contained them, doc 11). They are arranged in two parallel lines to the right and left of the central beam, at a distance of about 1.65 meters from the beam

and about 1.90 meters from one another. The dimensions vary slightly (10 cm × 11 cm; 9 cm × 12 cm), the thickness is 4 centimeters. The individual pairs of blocks (or empty holes in the concrete) are located lengthwise, and alternating with respect to the pillars of the morgue.

What was the use of those blocks? If we follow Presac, the architects of the Central Construction Office had thought up 14 fake showers in a space of 210 square meters in an effort to “fool” some thousand persons: not really much to “fool” so many people!

The inspection of the mortuary in crematorium I supplies us with the solution to this apparent mystery. Eight supporting beams of this hall present, in fact, in their center wooden blocks of the same type set into the concrete (see doc. 12). The lamps that now light up this room are fixed to three of them.

Therefore, these blocks were simply the bases, to which the lamps of morgue 1 were attached. This is confirmed also by a document. Plan 2197[b](r) of crematorium II, dated March 19, 1943,⁶¹ shows the pattern of the lamps for this hall: eight pairs of lamps are arranged in two parallel rows on both sides of the central beam, at equal distance from the pillars, i.e. at 1.90 meters from one another.

This corresponds to the positions of the blocks in question. As far as the width of the morgue is concerned, the lamps are situated next to the central beam, but it is reasonable to assume that they were actually located in the middle of each of the two halves of this room, i.e. at an intermediate distance between the beam and the opposite wall (3.3 meters), hence at about 1.65 m from the beam where, in fact, the blocks can be seen. If they had really been at the place shown in the drawing, they would have provided poor illumination for their section of the hall, and even worse for the other side, because the central beam, with its thickness of 55 cm, would have created broad shadow zones.

The strange placement on the drawing of the pairs of lamps right next to the central beam, on either side, may have the following explanation: in the western half of the morgue we also have a waste-water channel, which ran lengthwise between the central beam and the opposite wall in such a way that if the lamps had been drawn in at the location where the blocks are situated, the symbol (a small circle with an x in the center) for the seven lamps on this side of the room would have been superimposed on the lines of the channel and confusion might have resulted.

9. Conclusion

The authors claim to have furnished a concordance of evidence regarding the existence of the alleged openings

for the introduction of Zyklon B in the ceiling of morgue 1 of crematorium II at Birkenau, on the basis of Tauber's testimony, the “Train Photograph” and their own archeological findings.

This concordance is, in practice, purely fictitious for the following reasons:

1. The wire-mesh devices for Zyklon B allegedly fabricated by Kula never existed, therefore Tauber who claims to have seen them, is a false witness like Kula.
- 2a. The “Train Photograph” shows fuzzy objects of irregular shape, which only with fanciful conjecture can be considered to be chimneys for the introduction of Zyklon B.
- 2b. The alleged chimney #3 does not appear on the photograph and its existence is an arbitrary conjecture.
- 2c. The three indistinct objects, which the authors take to be chimneys for Zyklon B, are all on the eastern half of the roof slab of the morgue, which is at variance with their basic theses.
- 2d. Object #3 can be identified as the object, which can be seen in the same position on the photograph of January 1943 and is therefore not a chimney for Zyklon B.
- 2e. Objects 1 and 2 had a cylindrical shape and could therefore not be chimneys for Zyklon B.
- 2f. Object 1 stands to the east of pillar #2 instead of to the west of pillar #1.
- 2g. Another object on the roof is ignored by Keren et al., because it does not fit into their hypothesis neither by location nor by shape: it is not a Zyklon B chimney.
- 3a. On the aerial photographs of August 25, 1944, the chimneys are absolutely invisible and only fanciful conjecture allows the authors to affirm that they existed.
- 3b. The explanation of the smudges present on the ceiling of morgue 1 is absolutely erroneous.
- 3c. The smudges were all on the eastern half of the roof slab of morgue 1, which again is at variance with the fundamental thesis of the authors.
- 4a. The alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B that the authors claim to have “discovered” are not original.
- 4b. Opening #1 was created in 1945 by the Soviets or by the Poles.
- 4c. Opening #2 is a simple crack caused by the crash of this part of the ceiling on sustaining pillar #6.
- 4d. Opening #3, according to the authors themselves, is invisible.
- 4e. Opening #4 was created by the pillar which protrudes from it.
- 4f. The alleged openings for the introduction of Zyklon B “discovered” by the authors all have dimensions in disagreement with those indicated by the witness

Kula.

- 4g. All openings are irregular in shape and do not have properly crafted edges; the reinforcement bars have not been removed; there is no trace of mortar.
- 4h. There are no traces in the concrete (ceiling, pillars, floor) of any steel columns for introducing Zyklon B had been fastened to it.
5. The blocks set into the ceiling of the morgue did not serve as bases for the fixation of fake showers, but for the attachment of lamps lighting up this room.

The alleged “forensic investigation” by Daniel Keren, Jamie McCarthy, and Henry W. Mazal thus has no value, be it historical or technical.

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Abbreviations

- APMO: *Archiwum Państwowego Muzeum w Oświęcimiu* (Archive of the National Museum at Auschwitz)
- GARF: *Gosudarstvenni Archiv Rossiskoi Federatsii* (State Archive of the Russian Federation), Moscow
- NA: *National Archives*, Washington D.C.
- RGVA: *Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennii Vojennii Archiv* (Russian State Archive for War), Moscow.

Notes

- ¹ *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 9(1), spring 2004, pp. 68-103.
- ² See the previous article in this issue.
- ³ See in this issue, pp. 387-410. An earlier version of this paper was posted online since 2002 on the website of Russ Granata, which does no longer exist; it was first published in German as “Keine Löcher, keine Gaskammer(n)”, *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 6(3) (2002), pp. 284-304; the old online version is now posted at www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/noholes.html.
- ⁴ C.D. Provan, “No Holes? No Holocaust? A Study of the Holes in the Roof of Morgue 1 of Krematorium 2 at Birkenau”. Printed by: Zimmer Printing, 410 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063. © 2000 by Charles D. Provan.
- ⁵ D. Keren, J. McCarthy, H.W. Mazal, op. cit. (note 1), S. 79.
- ⁶ It is the English translation of the French translation published by Pressac in: *Auschwitz: Technique and operation of the gas chambers*, Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, New York 1989, pp. 481-502.
- ⁷ Höss trial, vol. 11, interrogation of Henryk Tauber on May 24, 1945, pp. 129f.
- ⁸ “Za”, literally “behind.”
- ⁹ Kamann-Serie, APMO Negativ Nr. 20995/504.
- ¹⁰ Statement by H. Tauber on February 27, 1945. GARF, 7021-108-13, p. 5.
- ¹¹ G. Greif has limited himself to interviews with seven self-styled survivors of the so-called “Sonderkommando,” asking them banal questions, which show his very vague knowledge of the history of the camp. As a case in point, this “expert” did not even ask his partners how many Zyklon B holes there were!
- ¹² G. Greif, *Wir weinten tränenlos... Augenzeugenberichte der jüdischen “Sonderkommandos” in Auschwitz*, Böhlau Verlag, Cologne/Weimar/Vienna 1985, p. 237.
- ¹³ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), p. 389.
- ¹⁴ RGVA, 502-2-54, p. 79.
- ¹⁵ Pressac has noted that drawing 2197 of crematorium II, dated

March 19, 1943, “indicates that morgue 1 had 16 lamps and 3 taps and morgue 2, 10 lamps and 5 taps”, whereas the inventory attributes 5 taps to morgue 1 and 3 to morgue 2, therefore the two lines are inverted; hence, he ascribes an analogous inversion also to the 4 wire mesh introduction devices and to the 4 wooden covers, which would thus belong to morgue 1. (J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), pp. 430 and 231). But as the number of lamps is correct for each one of the two morgues, nothing proves that the lines referring to the 4 wire mesh introduction devices and to the 4 wooden covers have been inverted; therefore, the irrefutable fact remains that these objects are attributed to morgue 2.

- ¹⁶ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 407f.
- ¹⁷ Höss trial, vol. 11, interrogation of Henryk Tauber on May 24, 1945, p. 139.
- ¹⁸ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), photo 11, p. 337.
- ¹⁹ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), p. 340. Cf. document 2.
- ²⁰ First analyses of this photo were made by Jean-Marie Boisdefeu (*La controversie sur l’extermination des Juifs par les Allemands*, vol. 1, Vrij Historisch Onderzoek, Berchem 1994, p. 168) and G. Rudolf (*Das Rudolf Gutachten*, 2nd ed., Castle Hill Publishers, Hastings 2001, p. 79; Engl.: *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003, p. 113-116), though relying on low quality reproductions of this photo.
- ²¹ From: C.D. Provan, “No Holes? No Holocaust? A Study of the Holes in the Roof of Leichenkeller 1 of Krematorium 2 at Birkenau”, Zimmer Printing, 410 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063, p. 33.
- ²² Data taken from the drawings of crematorium II published by J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), pp. 286 and 325.
- ²³ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), pp. 268f.
- ²⁴ Ibidem, p. 329. The windows of the crematorium thus stood at hardly 40 cm above the surface of the layer of sand, which is confirmed by the photograph from the Kamann series of crematorium II in the summer of 1943. Cf. following section.
- ²⁵ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 394-397.
- ²⁶ Kamann series, January 1943. APMO, Negativ Nr. 20995/506.
- ²⁷ The camera stood a little distance above the level of the morgue and this explains the fact that the two objects also had a rounded top.
- ²⁸ Mission 60 PR/694 60 SQ. Can F 5367. Exposure 3185, 3186. NA.
- ²⁹ J.C. Zimmerman, *Holocaust Denial. Demographics, Testimonies and Ideologies*. University Press, Lanham, New York, Oxford 2000, p. 243.
- ³⁰ NA, Mission 60 PR/694 60 SQ. Can F 5367. Exposure 3185f., here 3185.
- ³¹ According to M. Nyiszli, two SS men were assigned to the alleged gassings: *Auschwitz. A Doctor’s Eyewitness Account*. Fawcett Crest, New York 1961, p. 45; *Im Jenseits der Menschlichkeit. Ein Gerichtsmediziner in Auschwitz*, Dietz Verlag, Berlin 1992, p. 36.
- ³² C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 397.
- ³³ Ibidem, p. 404.
- ³⁴ RGVA, 502-1-229, p.11.
- ³⁵ RGVA, 502-1-229, pp. 12f.
- ³⁶ RGVA, 502-1-229, p. 14.
- ³⁷ NA, Mission 60 PRS/462 60 SQ. Can D 1508. Exposure 3055.
- ³⁸ NA, Mission 15 SG/995 5PG. Can D 1535. Exposure 4018.
- ³⁹ RGVA, 502-1-313, p. 4.
- ⁴⁰ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), p. 341.
- ⁴¹ In this photograph, which shows the eastern section of the morgue along a SW-NE diagonal, the grass forms a thick dark spot, which certainly covers at least the southern part of that section of the roof and which, in an aerial photograph, would have appeared precisely

as a thick dark spot.

⁴² C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 391.

⁴³ Daniel Keren et al., op. cit. (note 1), p. 85.

⁴⁴ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 398

⁴⁵ Ibidem, pp. 399f.

⁴⁶ Ibidem, pp. 397f.

⁴⁷ Ibidem, pp. 400-406.

⁴⁸ Ibidem, pp. 403.

⁴⁹ R.J. van Pelt, *The Case for Auschwitz. Evidence from the Irving Trial*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington/Indianapolis 2002, p. 208.

⁵⁰ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 405.

⁵¹ Ibidem, photographs 28-30.

⁵² Ibid. p. 404.

⁵³ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), p. 265.

⁵⁴ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 402f., photographs 20-25.

⁵⁵ R.J. van Pelt, The Pelt Report, *Pelt Report*, Gutachten im Verfahren von David John Cawdell Irving vs. (1) Penguin Books Limited, (2) Deborah E. Lipstadt, Queen's Bench Division, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, Az. 1996 I. No. 113., p. 295; *The Case for Auschwitz*, op. cit. (note 49), p. 406.

⁵⁶ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 407.

⁵⁷ "The 'Gas Testers' of Auschwitz," in: TR, 2(2) (2004), pp. 140-154.

⁵⁸ C. Mattogno, op. cit. (note 3), pp. 405, photograph 26.

⁵⁹ Carlo Mattogno, "The Morgues of the Crematoria at Birkenau in the Light of Documents", TR 2(3) (2004), pp. 276-278.

⁶⁰ J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 6), p. 488.

⁶¹ Ibid., p. 312.

Reply to Carlo Mattogno and the Editor on the Gas Detectors

By Arthur R. Butz

I wish to reply to Carlo Mattogno's articles on gas detectors for the crematorium at Auschwitz (*TR*, pp. 140-155, May 2004), and the editor's prologue to those articles. In 1998 Mattogno and I wanted to air this issue in the *Journal of Historical Review*, but the editor declined to carry the exchange. I am grateful for this opportunity to do so. I shall assume the reader has studied the issue, not only in the aforementioned article, but also, and especially, in my original article,¹ and in Mattogno's rebuttal of it.²

The Problem

In the correspondence relating to the construction of crematorium II, the Central Construction Office telegraphed the furnace and crematorium oven maker Topf, on 26 February 1943, as follows:

"Send off immediately 10 gas testers [Gasprüfer] as discussed. Hand in estimate later."

Topf's reply was sent on 2 March and reads as follows:³

"Erfurt, 2 March 1943

Regarding: Crematory [II], gas testers.

We confirm the receipt of your telegram, saying:

'Send off immediately 10 gas testers as discussed. Hand in estimate later.'

In this regard we inform you that already two weeks ago we asked 5 different firms about the display devices for hydrogen cyanide residue [Anzeigegeräte für Blausäure-Reste] requested by you. We received negative answers from 3 firms, and from two others an answer is still outstanding.

In case we receive notification in this matter, we shall get close to you immediately so that you can get in contact with the firm producing these devices."

In Mattogno's present paper and its prologue there are three translations of "Anzeigegeräte," namely "display devices" (pp. 140, 150), "indicators" (p. 141), and "gauges" (caption to Fig. III.6, p. 148). I have used the first here, though I used "detection devices" in my original paper. Note that there is a substantial distinction, since the terms "display devices" and "gauges" suggest continuous measurement, while "indicators" and "detection devices" suggest activation only at some critical threshold.

I want to especially note a feature of this letter that is as important as the reference to HCN (hydrogen cyanide):

it expresses a failure to find a supplier of the desired devices. Mattogno expressed this as "Topf's difficulty in locating them".⁴ However Mattogno effectively ignored this feature of the document, both in formulating his theory and in critiquing my theory. A second fault of his critique is that he inexplicably ignored a point that I took some pains to present clearly.

Mattogno's Proposed Solution and Its Problems

Mattogno's style is prolix, possibly because he has available a wealth of documents, and one must read long and carefully to discern his main thesis. It is this: the document as it comes to us makes no sense because it would have us believe that the furnace maker Topf was asked by the Central Construction Office to supply detectors of, or testers for, residual HCN from use of the pesticide Zyklon. That is the wrong department at Auschwitz going to the wrong source. This is so implausible that Mattogno believes that the document is a forgery, produced by taking an original document and substituting alternative words. Thus he would substitute "*Rauchgasanalyse*" (flue gas analysis) for "*Blausäure-Reste*" to have the document make sense.⁵ His grounds are that for Topf a concern for flue gas was routine, and thus "simple flue gas analyzers," as he puts it, for CO or other familiar gases must have been in question.

Mattogno's analysis is masterful as regards the Zyklon, but nowhere in the present paper does he consider the possibility of a source of HCN other than Zyklon. Of course we cannot believe the document in his interpretation, for the reasons he gives. However by altering the document so that Topf is trying to fill a routine need, he worsens the situation because the document says the opposite. It says that what was being sought was not routine for Topf. It is wildly illogical to argue that we must replace a reference to an unusual need, with a reference to a routine need, when the document says it was unusual. While it is indeed not credible that Topf was asked to supply detectors of HCN generated by Zyklon, it is even more incredible that Topf said, as Mattogno would have us believe, that it can't fill an order for, or even figure out a source of, "simple flue gas analyzers" for carbon monoxide (CO) or other common products of combustion. Topf would have had no trouble finding such things. I should add that even if, despite all the considerations Mattogno has adduced, Topf had been asked to supply

detectors for HCN as a product of Zyklon, then Topf would have been able to figure out how or where to get them, despite the matter being outside its field.

Mattogno claims that if we make the substitution he proposes then “all problems discussed above disappear instantaneously!”⁶ The problems disappear because he has replaced them with a new, insoluble, problem. He has thrown the baby out with the bathwater!

The document makes less sense if we make Mattogno’s substitution. For the forgery thesis to work, the whole received document must be thrown out. I can’t see any grounds for that, and Mattogno has not found such grounds.

An Alternative Solution

My hypothesis is that the Central Construction Office asked Topf to supply detectors of HCN as a combustion product, a hazard that in 1943 had been known for only about a decade. On the last point I could have given more dates and documentation. The already cited 1977 paper by Y. Tsuchiya gives the historical background, at least for the USA.⁷ After a great loss of life in the Cleveland Clinic fire due to fumes from burning X-ray films, J.C. Olsen conducted laboratory investigations that determined amounts of HCN generated by the incineration of nitro-cellulose film, wool, and silk, and reported the results in papers published in 1930 and 1933. In this regard,

I should note an error I made when I wrote “nylon and wool can release HCN when burned, a fact that has been known since the Thirties.” I should have written “silk and wool”. Nylon was not cited in the literature, apparently, until 1962.

The HCN detectors used with Zyklon would have been useless for the detection of HCN as a product of continuing combustion, because as Mattogno explained they were chemical kits designed to be used at specific times, i.e., immediately after disinfestations with Zyklon. If residual HCN as a combustion product was a concern in the crematorium/waste incinerator installation, then continuous monitoring of some sort would have been desired. Mattogno agrees that in context the Topf letter suggests a device for such continuous monitoring.

Topf’s failure to find a source of the detectors must be taken into account in interpreting some of the things I wrote earlier. My style is terse, and this perhaps leads to misunderstandings. For example, Mattogno ridiculed my suggestion that “perhaps a detector [of HCN] generating an audible alarm was desired,” on the grounds that such devices did not exist. But that would explain perfectly why they weren’t found! I never said they existed. I have surmised that in 1943 a concern for HCN as a combustion product was relatively novel, and practicing engineers could have been somewhat uncertain on how, or what was available, to deal with it.

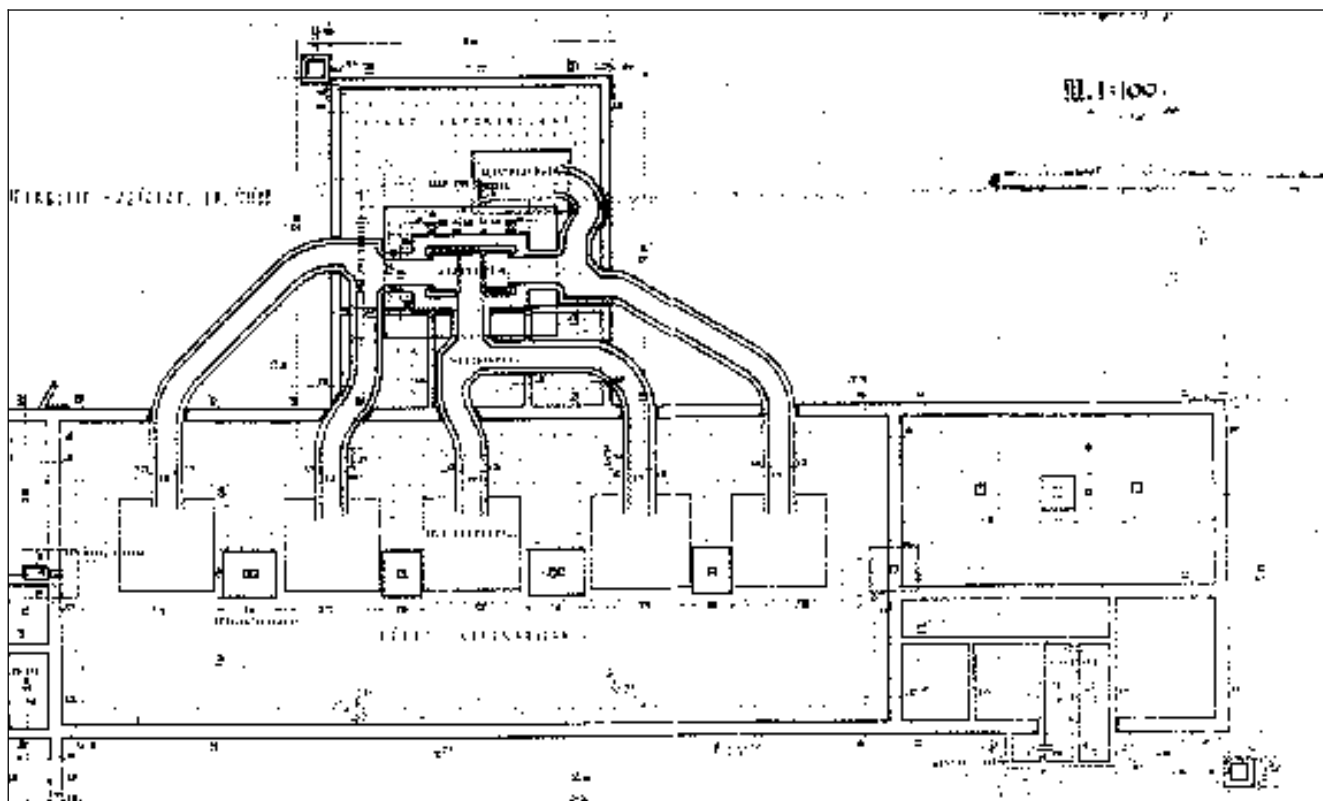


Fig. 1: Arrangement of flues and ducts for Auschwitz crematorium II.

Another point I have emphasized in this controversy is the odd design of the crematorium II chimney. I attempted to clearly lay this out in my original article, via the reproduction of an engineering drawing of the flues and ducts for the crematorium. In order to make this clear, I again reproduce this drawing as Fig. 1.⁸ The duct running between the waste incinerator (the “*Müllverbrennungssofen*” that appears as the uppermost part of the installation) and one of the cremation ovens is clearly visible on the right side of the drawing. The chimney stands between the waste incinerator and the five cremation ovens, and a common duct conducts the effluents of the waste incinerator and the right-most of the five ovens to the chimney. When I said that the design of the waste incinerator was “novel,” I meant with respect to the chimney flues; I didn’t mean the combustion chamber was novel.

Mattogno ignored this crucial point and argued that for my suggestion to work the flue gases of the waste incinerator would have to exit the chimney at a height of 16 m and then somehow make their way back into the crematorium. That is impossible. I argued, or at least I clearly implied, that the odd design of the chimney flues raised the danger of HCN reaching the crematorium ovens and furnace room directly from the waste incinerator.

Science and Engineering Practice.

Another feature of Mattogno’s critique is that he assumes an overly simplistic model for the transmission and application of scientific developments. For example, he argues on the one hand that a concern for HCN as a combustion product could not have been novel in 1943 if scientific investigations established the danger in papers published a decade earlier. He also argues that an effect involving burning rayon with impregnated flame retardants could not have been known by the Germans in 1943 because the first scientific paper on the effect in question was published in 1978.

In fact it can, on the one hand, take years for a fact established in a laboratory to be taken into account by practicing engineers, especially when the design and manufacture of special devices are required.

On the other hand, certain facts may be available to the practicing engineers long before a formal paper is published laying them out. Scientific publication is closely related to Ph.D. dissertations, and I can testify that I have examined many such dissertations which were worthy in relation to what had already been formally published, but which I knew must have been surpassed by work not published for reasons of either national security (“classified” work with military or intelligence applications), or commercial proprietorship, or just preoccupa-

tion with practice over publication.

In fact it can be very difficult to discern, from the outside, what engineers practicing in a given area, at a given time, knew or believed. Even the initial recognition of HCN as a combustion product is somewhat cloudy, as the earliest source that Y. Tsuchiya cites is an anonymous report in a 1929 engineering journal. Even he does not know to whom the initial apprehension should be credited, and there is no proof that somebody didn’t know it before 1929. Y. Tsuchiya, incidentally, lists no prewar German sources, but there must have been some.

Conclusion

I think 1943 was about the right time for practicing German engineers to have been concerned with, but not quite sure what to do about, HCN as a combustion product. My theory depends on this idea that the authors of the correspondence were not sure what they should do, but I have not postulated the uncertainty to shore up my theory. It is in the document in question, even the part of the document that Mattogno would retain.

All I am suggesting is that the reason the Central Construction Office turned to a furnace maker for HCN detectors was that what was involved was a concern for HCN as a combustion product, not a pesticide. I am bewildered that such a simple interpretation of the document in question should meet such resistance.

© Sept. 21, 2004

Notes

- ¹ “Gas Detectors in Auschwitz Crematorium II,” *Journal of Historical Review* Sept.-Oct. 1997, pp. 24-30. Reproduced as Supplement 4 in the third edition of my book, *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, Theses and Dissertations Press; PO Box 257768; Chicago, IL 60625, 2003. Also <http://pubweb.northwestern.edu/~abutz/di/dau/detect.html>.
- ² “Critique of the A.R. Butz article, Gas Detectors in Auschwitz Crematorium II”, www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/vpmatbutz.html
- ³ Jean-Claude Pressac, *Les crématoires d'Auschwitz: la machinerie du meurtre de masse*, CNRS Éditions, Paris, 1993. The document is reproduced, together with an English translation, by J.-C. Pressac and Robert-Jan Van Pelt in their article in Y. Gutman, M. Berenbaum (eds.), *Anatomy of the Auschwitz Death Camp*, Indiana Univ. Press, Bloomington, 1994, pp. 230f.
- ⁴ p. 148.
- ⁵ pp. 148f. Mattogno’s term was translated as “smoke gas” but the combustion product he is talking about is called “flue gas” in English.
- ⁶ p. 148.
- ⁷ Y. Tsuchiya, “Significance of HCN generation in fire gas toxicity,” *Journal of Combustion Toxicology*, vol. 4, Aug. 1977, p. 271.
- ⁸ J.-C. Pressac, *Auschwitz: Technique and Operation of the Gas Chambers*, Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, NY, 1989, pp. 284-287 (drawings of 23 Jan. 1942, on which Fig. 1 is based); pp. 306-312 (drawings of 19 March 1943, showing the same duct arrangement as in earlier drawings).

The Rudolf Report: "Psychopathological and Dangerous"

On the Psychopathology of a Declaration

By Pierre Guillaume

La Recherche, No. 300, July/August 1997:

The Rudolf Report

The members of the Chemistry Department of the [French] Academy of Sciences received a few weeks ago a document entitled 'The Rudolf Report,' accompanied by an anonymous letter which explained the ongoing witch hunt against revisionist historians.

Several days later, Le Monde informed us that the distribution and sale of this document is forbidden in France.

'The Rudolf Report' combines scientific facts, which have no connection whatsoever to the subject, with a sick, feverish delusion that the gas chambers of Auschwitz could have only been used for killing lice on the clothes of deportees from Central Europe.

We would not have paid much attention to this letter, had it not mentioned that the document had been sent to all professors of inorganic chemistry in German universities and had not received a single objection from any of them. Our silence could be interpreted as an approval. It is therefore important for us to state that this report is noteworthy only as an example of perversion of science: it is interesting to those in the field of psychopathology, but it is dangerous because of its professional appearance.

The Members of the Chemistry Department of the [French] Academy of Sciences"

The above declaration is astonishing. It is the collective opinion of the members, *all* the members, of the Chemistry Department of the French Academy of Sciences, who agreed to align themselves in this common declaration. The matter must be a serious one to inspire such solidarity. The opinion presented highlights the obvious in order to bring these items to our attention.

These obvious matters are opposed by others, and this is the reason why this outlandish declaration is granted validity through its publication in a scientific magazine.

There we have it. The authority of a scholarly magazine is used when publishing this unanimous declaration. One wonders, what could be so important that it justifies this collective initiative of academics and is handled in such a rush. What sort of document could precipitate such solidarity?

Is it spontaneous unanimity, or rather a silent agreement made under the pressure of some excited zealots who are willing to denounce anyone showing a lack of loyalty? The answer to this question could be important. The incident is there. The Chemistry Department of the French Academy of Sciences and each of its members deployed their authority, but science does not acknowledge a dispute of authority. Science is not allowed to ac-

knowledge it! In fact, the opinion of the Chemistry Department of the French Academy of Sciences doesn't have the least bit to do with chemistry, nor science. It says in the declaration:

"It is therefore important for us to state that this work is noteworthy only as an example of perversion of science: it is interesting to those in the field of psychopathology, [...]"

The members of the Chemistry Department placed their collective authority into this declaration by requesting the reader to believe their words without proof. This is exactly the opposite of a scientific refutation: it replaces proof through argument with pure authority. No matter how great or how justified the authority of a scientist may be, he loses it in that instant when he falls back on his reputation instead of arguing to support his assessment.

But is this declaration a valid assessment at all, or is it more the extension of an official prohibition of a religious nature? *The Rudolf Report* is, after all, an allegedly noteworthy example of perversion of science. Well then! The perversion of science is a serious threat, and justifies the interference of the French Academy of Sciences. The exposure and scientific dismantling of such a notable exam-

ple of perversion would honor the French Academy, its authority, and strengthen its influence throughout the world. But instead of indicating to the stunned public (and especially the scientific community) the errors, impossibilities, and allegedly perverse methods discovered in the *Rudolf Report*, the academics limit themselves to **declaring...**

This *Report*, which is "only interesting to those in the field of the psychopathology," is "quite dangerous because of its professional appearance."

How bizarre!

A report, which was submitted to support a thesis and which displays solid psychopathology, would probably lead that thesis to its final ruin. Then how can the *Rudolf Report* be dangerous?

Because it lends a professional appearance to the thesis which it defends.

Does this *Report* therefore have a professional appearance?

How strange! We are being made to believe:

"This work combines scientific facts, which have no connection with the subject whatsoever, with a sick feverish delusion, which pretends [...]"

If this were the case, the *Rudolf Report* could not deceive anyone in the scientific world who would recognize its psychopathology right away, and its distribution within the field of the scientific public could only help convince them of the senselessness of revisionist arguments.

This collective action of the French Academy (which sounds like a warning) seems to be exaggerated. If the data published in the *Rudolf Report* has no relation to the subject, and the subject is handled exactly as described by the members of the Chemistry Department, then it is not clear how it can yield a professional appearance. But, if the *Rudolf Report* is unprofessional and still appears to be professional, then any reasonable action that could eliminate this appearance would be desired.

If the facts do not support the thesis, then the only reasonable and effective way would be to prove this. A simple prohibiting declaration appealing to authority is the worst of all possible quick responses. It is important to take steps to expose the deception by clearly indicating the errors, which show the document's appearance to be deceiving. If this is not done, silence "can certainly [...] be interpreted," because this declaration by the academics says a lot – or, perhaps, not enough.

We also learn that this *Rudolf Report* was sent to all German professors of inorganic chemistry "without 'a single objection' from them." This may have been the actual reason for the collective declaration by the academics; they don't want people to say that the *Rudolf Report* was sent to all the members of their community "without 'a single objection' from them."

The terrible revisionists are correct in maintaining that the *Rudolf Report* met complete rejection and an insulted reaction from the nobility, but they were not provided with a single justified objection.

The reason for this is evident, and is possibly the message the authors intended to give: The *Rudolf Report* is not even worth being subject to the slightest justified criticism.

Why is it then "of course quite dangerous?"

If it is dangerous, it first of all requires a thorough criticism, which should be very easy to do, since the *Rudolf Report* is supposed to contain such great errors. A criticism would also be necessary since its errors are allegedly only recognizable under great scrutiny.

Is the refutation of the *Rudolf Report* difficult or easy?

It depends ...

The story offered here makes no sense at all and only offers a new impossibility. Who are these terrible revisionists, who, under the greatest expense and greatest drudgery, sent to the most competent personalities of France such a poorly composed report, full of scientific facts unrelated to the subject, in order to reveal their trickery? This is, evidently, a complex strategy, which can be shattered immediately by breaking the silence – it is that simple.

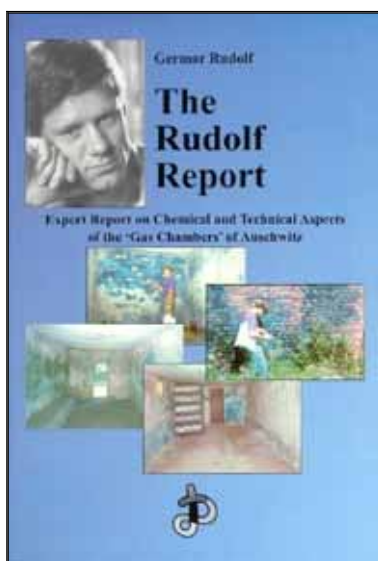
The members of the Chemistry Department of the French Academy of Sciences proved incapable of refuting the *Rudolf Report: An Expert Report on Chemical and Technical Aspects of the 'Gas Chambers' of Auschwitz*, or else they carelessly contributed their signatures without understanding the object of its research. They expose themselves to such a suspicion.

Fortunately, we were informed by *Le Monde* that the distribution and sale of this *Rudolf Report* is forbidden in France.

Therefore there are no more problems!

Sleep ... sleep, you little ones ... sleep!

Keep on walking, there is nothing to see!



The Rudolf Report: scarecrow of politically correct scientists all over the world. Order it now: +1(773) 769 1121 or online at www.vho.org/store/USA

Obituary

Memories about Russell Granata (Aug. 22, 1923 – Aug. 14, 2004)

By Carlo Mattogno

My first revisionist writings appeared in 1985. A few years later, I made an initial contact with the *Institute of Historical Review*. Russell was a most very ardent supporter of the IHR at that time. He was of Italian descent, but considering the anti-Italian atmosphere prevailing in the U.S. at that time, his parents had decided to cut off all ties to their heritage and not to teach their son to speak Italian. This way his parents hoped to save him from having to fight a bad reputation, which Italian immigrants had at that time due to a minority of criminals whose names became infamous for organized crime.

As he grew older, Russell sensed the blood of his ancestors in his veins, which made him search for his roots and learn the language of his parents. He started socializing with a circle of Italian immigrants that had formed not too far away from his home. The next logical step was to visit Italy, the home of his ancestors, to which he was increasingly attracted. Perhaps that was a reason as well for him to get in touch with me.

Our first telephone conversation was soon followed by a vivid exchange of letters. Russell was interested in my Italian revisionist writings and started to translate them into English. It did not take long for him to turn into a valuable liaison between me and the Institute for Historical Review. It was probably due to his persistence that I was invited to the 9th International Revisionist Conference in California in 1989. During our first meeting I found that I already enjoyed and valued his politeness, his maturity, his practical sense, and his generosity.

Russell accepted me in his home, where I experienced his wife Doris as a lovely and affable hostess. I also had the chance to meet his magnificent three daughters, of whom he was very proud.

At the conference mentioned above, Russell was not only my official translator, but also my co-speaker, because he stood with me at the podium; I read one paragraph in Italian, and Russell translated it into English. We first had to practice it so that this synchronization would

work! After our presentation, Russell drove with me in his car to the coast of the Baja California peninsula, showing me the proud cities of northwestern Mexico.

In subsequent years Russell was repeatedly a guest in my house, sometimes all by himself, sometimes together with Doris. This way he got to know the land of his ancestors, and he inhaled the elixir of life with deep breaths, just as he enjoyed the Italian food and its wines. Because he always was young at heart, he always craved the contact with young people. Sometimes he simply vanished, only to be found later standing in some shop peacefully chatting with some young Italians. All of my friends also became his friends, and the all welcomed him cordially and treated him with greatest affability.

My second visit to his house took place in 1994 at the occasion of the 12th International Revisionist Conference. During that meeting of scholars he distinguished himself by his modesty; he always avoided forcing himself into the foreground and was happy to be presented as my friend and translator.

He was well aware that his talents were primarily to organize things. And he made good use of his talent by setting up his own quite important website and his own small publishing company – Granata Publishing. He installed a separate section just for me on his site that after a while contained dozens of articles, which Russell translated into English.

Following this conference, Russell, Jürgen Graf, and I discussed the project of traveling to Moscow, where the archive of the Central Construction Office of the Auschwitz camp is kept. After the second book by Jean-Claude Pressac had appeared, which was heavily based on these Moscow documents, our plan quickly came to fruition.

Before I returned back home to Italy, Doris organized an excursion for all of us to the Sequoia National Park with its giant trees. What a great idea! The sight of these gigantic mammoth trees many centuries old made Russell and me awestruck.

In 1995, Russell wanted to participate at our Russian



adventure. He arrived early at my home, because we wanted to contact another person in Germany before heading for Moscow. On our way back from Germany to Italy, we stopped by in Basel, where we met Jürgen Graf. Three weeks later, in the middle of July 1995, Russell and I flew to the Russian capital, where Jürgen was already waiting for us at the airport.

I remember a strange incident. Before we left, Russell asked me to accompany him to the U.S. embassy in Rome, where he intended to change a \$100 bill into one hundred One Dollar bills, because somebody had talked him into believing that this is the best way of paying in Moscow. Of course, we quickly realized in Moscow that this was not true, because only the small Tourist stands accepted those small bills.

The experiences we had in Moscow are unforgettable, not only because we gained access to the archives with all their documents, but even more so because we could experience the daily life of the average Russian. Russell and I lived with a family, which soon after our arrival left for a journey, leaving the entire apartment to us. Jürgen lived with a different family. Since we were all by ourselves, we had to organize everything: shopping, cooking, washing the dishes, cleaning. We also had to commute independently, at least to the point where we would meet Jürgen. After some initial difficulties, traveling through Moscow actually became quite pleasant, as we had now figured out the Moscow underground system. After we had visited several archives, we also went to the Russian Central State Archive, where we were admitted thanks to Russell.

Our American friend always carried his video camera along, of which he made use in the most unexpected situations, while commenting his footage at the same time. In Moscow he produced a small documentary with many scenes from the daily life, but also with many pictures of cultural places of interest of the city, which we frequented regularly during our spare time with our Russian hostess.

After we returned from Moscow, Russell stayed a few more weeks at my place, because he wanted to celebrate his 72nd birthday here. On August 22, some twenty persons – all of them close friends – wished Russell all the best at a lavishly filled table at a nice restaurant.

On October 6th and 7th, the first international Italian revisionist conference took place in Trieste. It was a substitute conference for a conference planned by the Institute for Historical Review as well as the Swiss organization *Vérité et Justice* (Truth and Justice) to be held in Beirut in March of that year. This conference on revisionism and Zionism had been banned by the Lebanese authorities after the U.S. threatened to cut foreign aid for Lebanon. Russell was one of the lecturers in Trieste. With adorable energy and enviable enthusiasm, he flew all by himself from Los Angeles to Italy and presented an anti-conformist paper about the attacks on the WTC twin towers in New York. Before he returned back home, I had the pleasure to have him as my guest in my house and to listen to his experiences.

In August 2003, Doris accompanied her husband to Valledolmo, a village in Sicily, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. From this village, Russell's grand parents had started their journey across the big pond. Today, some distant relatives of Russell still live in that town. For Russell it was like returning back home to his origins. Shortly thereafter I met him for the last time. He advised me as to his arrival time so that I could pick him up from the airport of Fiumicino, which is named after Leonardo da Vinci.

He resided with Doris in a Hotel, where I met him with my entire family. From the granate apple tree in my yard I had picked the most beautiful fruits for him, because I knew that the Italian word for granate apple "Granata" was his family name and was considered the symbol of his clan. For half a day we had a lot of fun together, enjoying good wine, raising our glasses to each other, and promenading along the beach.

Full of pride, he then gave me a CD. During the festivities of his birthday, he had sung fervently, and he had turned to a professional recording studio, where he had it record him while singing various traditional Italian and American songs with his melodious voice. For me, this is the last and sonorous memory to a sincere and loyal friend, who contributed with passion and ambition to the progress of revisionism.

Editor's Remark: C. Mattogno's English language Internet documents can be found at www.vho.org/GB/c/CM.

Legends, Lies, Prejudices

England's Keele University Spreads Holocaust Propaganda

By Germar Rudolf

I think it was in the late nineties that a small news item in England mentioned that millions of air photos of WWII taken by the Royal British Air Force (and perhaps even some photos by the German *Luftwaffe* confiscated after the war by the British) were hidden in an Archive of Keele University. Nobody else seemed to pay a lot of attention to this news item. At that time I lived in England, and at one of my meetings with my revisionist friend Jeff Roberts, we discussed this topic. (Roberts is the creator of Carlos W. Porter's website www.cwporter.com). We agreed that it was necessary to get access to this archive in the hope of finding more air photo evidence regarding alleged locations of the Holocaust.

Jeff subsequently traveled many times to Keele University. He found out that Keele University had many British as well as captured German air photos, many of the latter covering areas behind the German-Russian front during the war. The negatives were in total disorder, its archive threatened to be dissolved due to lack of funds. After many visits, many hours of talking to the people in charge, he finally managed to get a project started to organize these air photos, in which he selflessly assisted, and he even indicated to me some two years ago that he appears to have succeeded in convincing Keele University to make those photos publicly accessible by offering them on the Internet.

In January of 2004, the international news media announced that Keele University has now indeed opened a website offering access to some of its air photos, accessible at www.evidenceincamera.co.uk/. Unfortunately, however, only the British air photos seem to be offered for public access, but not the German negatives.

Due to the massive public attention in the weeks that followed the launching and announcement of the site, requests had been so huge that the

bandwidth used exceeded the amount allotted to their server, resulting in the site being taken down temporarily.

As could be expected, the media hype generated around this "discovery" – a discovery made possible because of the selfless efforts of just one almost unknown revisionist – was filled with the usual lies. The German news magazine *Der Spiegel*, for example, headlined on Jan. 19, 2004, "Five Million Pictures of Horror" and quoted the British news Agency Reuters:

"Burning Corpses in the concentration camp [...] concentration camp Auschwitz on August 23, 1944: white clouds of smoke from burning corpses. [...] One of the photos shows the concentration camp of Auschwitz at the climax of extermination madness. On this picture, a white cloud rolls over the country. Accord-

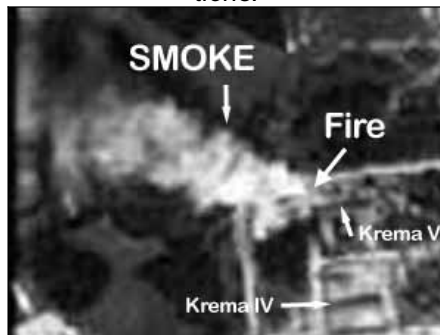
ing to the National Archive, it stems from a mass grave and not from the chimney of a crematorium. In 1943 and 1944, some 430,000 Hungarian Jews were murdered in Auschwitz – too many to be cremated in the cremation ovens of the extermination camp. [...] 'The pictures moved my very much,' says Allan Williams of the British Aerial Reconnaissance Archives at Keele University. 'To my knowledge no other reconnaissance photos of Auschwitz of that time exist.'"

That is of course wrong, since the U.S. published some of the photos of that camp, taken by U.S. and Canadian airplanes, back in 1979,² and John C. Ball published his analysis of many air photos of the U.S. National Archives relating to alleged Holocaust crimes scenes back in 1992.³

From this series of newly released British photos, one copy found particular attention: a photo of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp of Aug. 23, 1944 (see illustration and the mentioned *Spiegel* article). It shows smoke



Picture as published by Spiegel magazine.¹ Below: section enlargement with explanatory captions.



coming from an small area north of crematorium V, that is, from the same area where a little smoke is also seen on a photo of May 31, 1944, as it was published and analyzed by Ball, and another photo taken by a German plane on July 8, 1944 (see illustration).

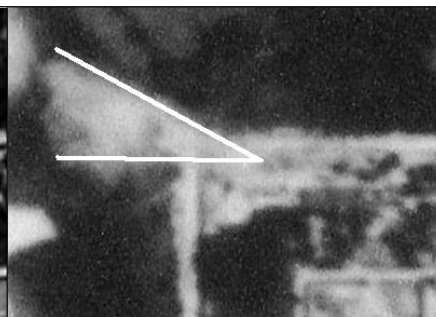
But before shrieking “This is the proof for the gas chambers, for the extermination, for mass murder, for the Holocaust,” I may remind the reader that this picture shows smoke coming from an area measuring perhaps some 100 square meters or less. According to witness claims and to the established version of the ‘Holocaust,’ however, the pits, in which ten thousand of Jews were allegedly incinerated, were located outside of the camp’s immediate perimeter, close to the so-called Bunkers, and they would have covered an area of many tens of thousands square meters, if they really had been able to incinerate that many bodies. In addition to this, we would expect not only to see smoke in this pictures, but also other obvious traces of: pits, mounds of excavated earth, piles of woods as fuel, a wide area around these items marked by massive human activity (i.e., transporting of corpses, fuel, ashes, etc.), leading to the destruction of the vegetation in this area.

Nothing of this can be seen on this or other photos taken between May and September 1944.

Though this one photo of the Royal Air Force indicates that a moderate size fire burned north of crematorium V on August 23, 1944, it does not show exactly what burned in this fire. But this photo clearly refutes claims of mass extermination with subsequent mass in-



British air photo of Auschwitz, Aug. 23, 1944, section with smoke close to crematorium V. Lines added to trace back location and size of fire.



German air photo of Auschwitz of July 8, 1944, section with smoke close to crematorium V.⁴ Lines added to trace back location and size of fire.

cineration in huge pits – just as similar air photos taken by Canadian and American reconnaissance planes. This very air photo, which is published all over the world as evidence allegedly proving the Holocaust in Auschwitz, actually proves exactly the opposite: the Holocaust is a lie, and the media continue to lie about this topic.

Notes

- ¹ www.spiegel.de/wissenschaft/mensch/0,1518,druck-282533,00.html
- ² D.A. Brugioni, R.G. Poirer, *The Holocaust Revisited: A Retrospective Analysis of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Extermination Complex*, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, Springfield 1979.
- ³ J.C. Ball, *Air Photo Evidence. Auschwitz, Treblinka, Majdanek, Sobibor, Bergen Belsen, Belzec, Babi Yar, Katyn Forest*, Ball Resource Services Limited, Delta, B.C. Canada, 1992. Online: www.air-photo.com; see also the updated version in Germar Rudolf (ed.), *Dissecting the Holocaust*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL, 2003, pp. 269-282 (www.vho.org/GB/Books/dth/fndaerial.html)
- ⁴ U.S. National Archives, DT/TM-3/Germany-East, Auschwitz/Neg No. 3. N50 E19.

The Mermelstein Lie

By Doris Hartmann

One of the most active German opponents of revisionism, Jürgen Langowski, has a website named “Holocaust Reference. Arguments against Auschwitz Deniers” (h-ref.de). It is cooperating closely with another German website called “Information Service against Right-Wing Extremism” (idgr.de), mastered by Margret Chatwin, a page dedicated to slander anyone deemed to be a right-winger by the left-wing extremists that operate the site.

Under the title “The ‘Institute for Historical Review’ – the Californian think tank of Holocaust deniers”¹ one can read on Langowski’s site:

“German ‘revisionists’ want to talk us into believing that German laws would be in the way of objective research and that the great breakthrough will come as soon as one can investigate the history of the extermination of the Jews without constraints. They overlook, however, that the IHR [Institute for Historical Review] has been able to research this issue ever since its founding, and which was even established for that very reason (‘research’). In contrast to Germany, no laws can disturb the ‘revisionists’ in the USA with their lying.

The Mermelstein case would have been a first-class opportunity. The IHR had promised to pay 50,000 dollars to anyone who could prove that gassings took place in Auschwitz.

Mel Mermelstein, a Auschwitz survivor and thus an eyewitness, had demanded the reward. What suffices in every murder case – an eyewitness – was not enough for those ‘revisionist’ gentlemen. The IHR refused to pay.

Mel Mermelstein sued, and the IHR was ordered to pay \$90,000 dollars (the awarded sum plus \$40,000 damages).

This trial would have been an excellent opportunity for the IHR to present convincing material and prove that the mass gassings did not happen – as the IHR claimed.

But as it looks like, after more than two decades of so-called ‘research,’ the IHR should start to consider closing the case: for lack of evidence.”

On August 29, 2000, the German TV station TM3 broadcast the docu-

mentary “*Die Schmach des Vergessens*” (The Disgrace of Forgetting) labeled as “authentic,” which reported on this “Mermelstein trial” and the judge’s verdict. It was a documentary worth watching, but it did not quite agree with what the German website claims.

The IHR had offered a sum of \$50,000 to anyone who could present “provable physical evidence for the extermination of Jews in gas chambers.” Because Mel Mermelstein only offered his testimony, the IHR claimed that the condition was not met and rightly refused to pay Mermelstein. Mermelstein subsequently sued the IHR for this sum.

In civil law suits in the USA, the plaintiff has to prove its case. It was therefore not the task of the defendant to present “convincing material” that the mass gassings claimed by the plaintiff did *not* take place. The argument that a simple eyewitness statement already suffices in every murder case is not necessarily true either, in particular, if it is contradicted by the defendant or other witnesses, or if there are “material and technical facts” contradicting the claim. For example, I may quote from the records of the Frankfurt Auschwitz trial held in 1964/1966:²

“25,000 murdered within 24 hours

Filip Müller, a 42 years old official from Prague, who was forced to work in the real center of the extermination camp Birkenau at the gassing facilities and the cremation ovens, reported as witness:

‘[...] in 1944, at the time when the Jewish trans-

Holocaust-Referenz
Argumente gegen Auschwitzleugner

Argumente

- ▶ Revisionismus
- ▶ "Es gibt nämlich gar keinen Antisemitismus III"
- ▶ Jüdische "Kriegserklärungen"
- ▶ Germar Rudolfs Werke
- ▶ Die 4 Millionen von Auschwitz
- [weitere Themen ...]

Dokumente

- ▶ Die Wannsee-Konferenz
- ▶ Eichmann in Jerusalem
- ▶ Hitlers "Friedensreden"
- ▶ Der Luftkrieg
- ▶ Hat Hitler überlebt?
- [weitere Themen ...]

Dieses und jenes

- ▶ Wozu das alles?

Zitate zum Judenmord

Abends gegen 9 Uhr fuhr ich mit ungefähr 15 Frauen mit einem kleinen Lastwagen das erste Mal zur Gaskammer. Ich sagte diesen Frauen, dass sie in einen Desinfektionsraum gehen müssten, verschwand aber, dass sie vergiftet werden sollten.
Josef Kramer

Aktuell: Drohung gegen IDGR

Kurz nach Veröffentlichung einer Meldung über eine Veranstaltung von Rechteradikalen ist beim IDGR eine Todesdrohung eingegangen, die auf den Seiten des IDGR dokumentiert wird.

Das ABC der Auschwitzleugner

- ▶ Auswanderung
- ▶ Präventivkriegstheorie
- ▶ Tarnbegriffe der Nazis
- ▶ Zahlenspiele
- ▶ Zitate der Auschwitzleugner
- [weitere Themen ...]

Literatur der Auschwitzleugner

- ▶ Johannes Rothkranz: Wussten Sie schon ...
- ▶ Wilhelm Stäglich: Der Auschwitz-Mythos
- ▶ Richard Harwood: Starben wirklich sechs Millionen?
- ▶ van Helting
- ▶ Roger Garaudy: Founding Myths ...
- [weitere Themen ...]

h-ref.de: Website of German Mermelstein Liars

ports from Hungary arrived, the death factory operated at full force. The special command included some nine hundred men. Work was done uninterruptedly at various working sites.

Within twenty four hours, 25,000 people were gassed. The corpses were burned in 46 large ovens.'

(To the question) Was there another way by which children were killed?

'It was in 1944 that such scenes occurred under Oberscharführer Moll. He took the child away from the mother, carried it away, which I saw in crematorium IV, where two large pits existed. He threw the child into the boiling fat of these people.'

[...] Public prosecutor Kügler: Is it true that inmates had to pour the fat dripping down from the corpses in the large incineration pits onto new corpses?

'That is absolutely correct.

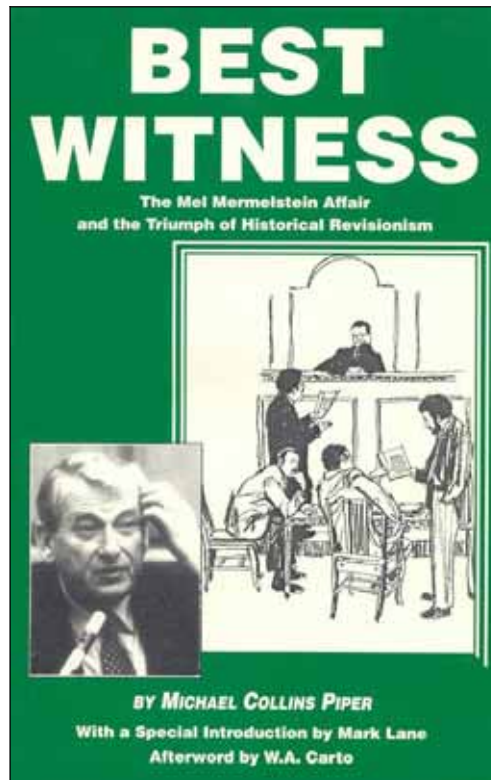
The pits were forty meters long and roughly six to eight meters wide and two and a half meters deep. They had deepenings at the ends, into which the human fat flowed. We had to pour this fat over the corpses so that they would burn better.'"

Now let us read another account of the same "eyewitness" about the ground water in Auschwitz. In his book *Sonderbehandlung*, which was published some eleven years after the conclusion of the above mentioned Frankfurt trial, Müller reports of a different pit, in which ground water had accumulated. He tells us how they tested how deep the water actually was:³

"Then we were ordered to throw the corpses into the pit. [...] We grabbed the dead bodies at their hands and feet and threw them with verve as far as possible into the pit. The water splashed in all directions as the corpses hit the water surface. Then the water closed over the corpses as they sank to the leveled ground."

Now another excerpt from Bernd Naumann's book *Auschwitz* with a description of the area where the camp Auschwitz-Birkenau was located:⁴

"On June 7th, the Broad report is read [into the



Met with total silence by all Holocausters:
The revelation of Mel Mermelstein, the
Auschwitz survivor and Auschwitz liar.
Order it now: +1(773) 769 1121
or online at www.vho.org/store/USA

record], the one description of the concentration camp Auschwitz, which the defendant Pery Broad had written down and given to the British shortly after the end of the war. After some hesitation, Broad admits that he is the sole author of this report, though he claims that he could not vouch for the entire content, because he wrote some of it only from hearsay.

[...] The situation in Birkenau was far worse than it had already been the case in Auschwitz. With every step one sank deeply into the tenacious morass. [...] For the inmates, the roll call that took place twice a day meant standing for hours in the wetness, coldness, and swamp. [...]

Finally the camp leaders decided by themselves to put an end to this. Thousands of prisoners of war were shot in a forest close to Birkenau and buried in several layers on top of each other in large mass graves. The

graves were 50 to 60 meters long, four meters deep and might have been just as wide."

How one could possibly dig deep pits in a swampy area (2.5 meters deep according to Filip Müller, but according to Pery Broad even four meters deep) and even "burn" corpses in them (the ground water level was only 30 to 120 centimeters below the ground level according to camp drainage maps⁵) is a physical mystery yet to be solved.

It is just as big a mystery, how one could possibly "pour the fat dripping down from the corpses in the large incineration pits" onto new corpses, when it is physically impossible that fat pouring out of bodies lying in a fire could be collected anywhere. Fat is an excellent fuel and would thus catch fire right away⁶ – though not under water, of course.

So much about the value of "unverified" statements of "eyewitnesses" who testified under oath. During the Mermelstein trial, the plaintiff could not present any "physical" evidence to support his claim. But the judge took "judicial notice" that the Holocaust and the killing in gas chambers with Zyklon B is a fact and that there is no appeal to a higher court.⁷

“Under Evidence Code Section 452(h), this court does take judicial notice of the fact that Jews were gassed to death at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp in Poland during the summer of 1944 [...] It is not reasonably subject to dispute, and it is capable of immediate and accurate determination by resort to sources of reasonably indisputable accuracy. It is simply a fact.”

With this decision, the judge declared as inadmissible any evidence to the contrary, which the defendant intended to present. Can a judgment be called a “confirmation of a historical fact” that is based on a hearing, during which no evidence was accepted other than the verbal claim of the plaintiff? Does such a verdict comply with the scholarly standards expected from the IHR by their German critics?

But that is not even the most important part of the entire affair, because this trial had an aftermath. A few years after this trial, Mermelstein and the IHR met again in court over the same issue. In an article on the above trial, published in a newsletter of the IHR, Bradley R. Smith, at that time a co-worker of the IHR, had called Mel Mermelstein a liar.⁸ Mermelstein promptly sued IHR anew, this time to pay him eleven million dollars for the mental and emotional damages the IHR had allegedly done to him. But this time the case was not about the Holocaust but whether or not Mermelstein was a liar. During this trial, which took place in 1991, the IHR could prove convincingly with an abundance of evidence that Mermelstein was indeed a multifold liar, so that Mermelstein lost the case on Sept. 19, 1991. It resulted in quite an echo in the U.S. news media.⁹ Mermelstein’s application for appeal was rejected on Oct. 28, 1991.¹⁰ This underscored the worthlessness of Mermelstein’s statements as a historical witness for the alleged gas chambers of Auschwitz sufficiently.

The German website trying to ridicule the IHR by referring to this case does not mention Mermelstein’s thunderous defeat at all, just as other opponents of revisionism fail to mention it.¹¹

So who exactly is it that tries to “falsify history”? Who is it that offers only defaming labels about their opponents instead of coming up with provable facts? And who is the liar here? Is the “Holocaust reference” of the “Information Service against Right-Wing Extremism” measuring up their own scholarly expectations, or is this service just another organ of those whose only goal it is to prop up the established version of the Holocaust with all means possible?

The reader can form his or her own opinion

One final remark about the false claim that historical research in the U.S. is free to find and present all the evi-

dence required to refute the Holocaust. Fact is that the free market does not finance historical research, but governments do. Almost all historians therefore depend on public funding. Any historian voicing skepticism about the Holocaust would lose his job. That is basically true for all western societies. Legal persecution is not required to suppress revisionists. Ostracizing and financially ruining them works just as well, and if that does not help, physical attacks, bombs, and arson have quite a convincing effect, too, as many revisionists have had to experience over the last three decades, including the IHR. Though it once used to be the flagship of revisionism, the IHR never had either the resources or the staff to do the research it should have done. It never really got beyond being an outlet for revisionist publications. Research has always been the focus of maverick scholars like Prof. Butz, Robert Faurisson, Germar Rudolf, and Carlo Mattogno.

Notes

- ¹ “Das ‘Institute for Historical Review’ – Die kalifornische Denkfabrik der Holocaust-Leugner,” www.h-ref.de/ar/ihr/ihr.shtml.
- ² Bernd Naumann, *Auschwitz*, Athenäum-Verlag, Frankfurt 1965, re. the Auschwitz trial in Frankfurt against Mulka and others, ref. 4 Ks 2/63 (Dec. 20, 1963), excerpt from the hearing, Oct. 1, 1964, pp. 333f.
- ³ Filip Müller, *Sonderbehandlung. Drei Jahre in den Krematorien und Gaskammern von Auschwitz*, Steinhausen, Munich 1979, p. 36; Engl.: *Eyewitness Auschwitz. Three Years in the Gas Chambers*, Stein and Day, New York 1979.
- ⁴ Op. cit. (note 2), pp. 200ff.
- ⁵ See for this Michael Gärtner, Werner Rademacher, “Ground Water in the Area of the POW camp Birkenau”, *TR*, 1(1) (2003) pp. 3-12.; C. Mattogno, “‘Cremation Pits’ and Ground Water Levels at Birkenau”, *TR* 1(1) (2003), S. 14-17.
- ⁶ Cf. C. Mattogno, “Combustion Experiments with Flesh and Animal Fat”, *TR* 2(1) (2004), pp. 64-72.
- ⁷ Acc. to *IHR Newsletter*, no. 82, October 1991, as well as M. Weber, *The Journal of Historical Review* 3(1) (1982), pp. 31-51.
- ⁸ Bradley Smith, *IHR Newsletter*, September 1985; cf. *IHR Special Background Report*, September 1991.
- ⁹ Mark I. Pinsky, “Doubters of Holocaust Win a Round in Court”, *Los Angeles Times*, (Orange County Edition), Sept. 25, 1991, p. B9; cf. *IHR Newsletter*, No. 82, October 1991.
- ¹⁰ Theodore J. O’Keefe, “‘Best Witness’: Mel Mermelstein, Auschwitz and the IHR”, in: *The Journal of Historical Review*, 14(1)(1994), pp. 25-32; Michael C. Piper, *Best Witness. The Mel Mermelstein Affair and the Triumph of Historical Revisionism*, Center for Historical Review, Washington 1994.
- ¹¹ So e.g. German historian Wolfgang Benz, “‘Revisionismus’ in Deutschland”, in: Brigitte Bailer-Galanda, Wolfgang Benz, Wolfgang Neugebauer (ed.), *Wahrheit und Auschwitzlüge*, Deuticke, Vienna, 1995, p. 43; In her book *Denying the Holocaust*, Deborah E. Lipstadt wrongly claims that the case had not yet been decided by May 1992. In it she refers to another application for an appeal by Mermelstein dated May 4, 1992, even though the appeal had been rejected on Oct. 28, 1991. (German: *Betrifft: Leugnen des Holocaust*, Rio-Verlag, Zürich 1994, p. 174 and footnote 14, p. 300).

Reviews

The International Auschwitz Controversy

By Germar Rudolf

John C. Zimmerman, "Fritjof Meyer and the number of Auschwitz victims: a critical analysis", *Journal of Genocide Research*, 6(2) (2004), pp. 249-266.

The controversy about the number of victims of the former German concentration camp Auschwitz, triggered in 2002 by senior editor Fritjof Meyer of Germany's largest news magazine *Der Spiegel*, has reached international dimensions, after Meyer's paper was subjected to a detailed scrutiny by the English language magazine discussed here.¹

John C. Zimmerman is an assistance professor for book keeping at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas. Defending the Holocaust Dogma is one of his spare time hobbies. In 2000, he published a "refutation" of Holocaust revisionism.² Many of his essays have been posted on the Internet mainly by the so-called Holocaust History Project (holocaust-history.org). With the paper discussed here, Zimmerman has been accepted as a kind of official Auschwitz expert. This raises the question, as to why the uncounted numbers of full-time Holocaust experts all over the world do not address the theses published by Fritjof Meyer.

Right at the beginning Zimmerman states that he only bothers discussing Meyer's hypothesis because Meyer's victim number has the potential to get into the mainstream, where it could be quoted as an acceptable number by authors and historians not familiar with the demographics of Auschwitz (p. 249). And that has to be prevented, Zimmerman claims.

On pp. 250-255, Zimmerman tackles the questions: how many prisoners were deported altogether toward Auschwitz railway station, how many of them were registered in the camp, and how many of those not registered were either transferred elsewhere or killed by gas? Revisionists and exterminationists argue only what happened to those inmates, about whose fate we have no other evidence than general witness statements.

This lack of evidence is acknowledged by Zimmerman, who admits that in the years 1942-1994 numerous transports arrived in Auschwitz, bringing inmates that were never registered in the camp and for which there is "no information" about their fate. But in spite of this total lack of any information, Zimmerman claims that those

prisoners were gassed. (p. 251)

"No information" means in plain English: no information also about their alleged fate of having been gassed.

That there are indeed cases where it can be shown that deportees sent to Auschwitz, but not registered there, were *not* killed by means of poisonous gas, is even admitted by Zimmerman. As an alternative to the claim of immediate extermination on arrival, he mentions that during 1944, thousands of Jews deported from Hungary and Poland were temporarily quartered in the transit section of the camp (*Durchgangslager*) before transferred to other camps. These inmates never received any registration number assigned (p. 252). of course, Zimmerman cannot come up with a single document indicating the mass murder of unregistered deportees, but he quote a document which deals with the mass transfer of unregistered Jews to other camps. This is a memo written on May 29, 1944, by First Lieutenant Ferency, delegate of the Hungarian Ministry for the Interior for the deportation of Jews.³ In it Ferency explains that 184,000 Jews had been deported the previous day and that the Security Police requested that the Jews get food for five days, because they were to be transferred by train to various labor camps after their selection at Auschwitz (p. 253)

Zimmerman argues that all those Jews not registered in Auschwitz and about whose fate we have no other evidence were gassed in Auschwitz.

It is necessary here to highlight Zimmerman's perverted way of arguing:

Only a few decades ago, it was considered a "certainty" that every transport arriving at Auschwitz was subjected to a selection process, during which those unfit for labor were separated and killed "by gas." That was especially true for the Jews deported from Hungary. During the past decades, however, it turned out that many assumed to have been exterminated had not been gassed after all, but were merely transferred to other camps. Zimmerman mentions a few cases himself. In their study about the Stutthof camp, Jürgen Graf and Carlo Mattogno have pointed out more such cases.⁴

In other words: inmates, about whose fate there was no information for many years, suddenly turned out to have been very much alive.

How is it then possible to claim, as Zimmerman is do-

ing it, that all those inmates, about whose fate we still have no information today, died “in the gas”?

Zimmerman is correct when claiming that many German authorities were instructed toward the end of the war to destroy their archives (p. 256). But that is a measure taken by all countries who are threatened to be occupied by enemy forces. If each and every such destruction of secret archival material would prove a Holocaust, then we would have one Holocaust after the other everywhere in the world.

It remains a fact that the absence of evidence cannot serve as proof for a claim. But that is exactly what Zimmerman is doing. That flies into the face of scientific methods.

An analysis of Zimmerman’s chapter about the capacity of the crematoria in Auschwitz, starting at p. 255, quickly reveals how weak the basis is upon which Zimmerman tried to erect his thesis. Comparable to the earlier works by Pressac, Zimmerman as well considers it unnecessary to consult technical expert literature or to perform his own technical calculations when trying to solve a technical problem. He relies completely upon witness testimonies and documents, which he picks selectively without any critical analysis. It is also indicative that Zimmerman does not mention the works of his arch enemy Carlo Mattogno with a single word in this paper. Until recently, attempts in refuting Mattogno’s works was one of Zimmerman’s main objectives.⁵ But when publishing in an allegedly scientific journal, he suddenly forgets the most important scientific principle: to mention and discuss contrary evidence and opinions. So much for Zimmerman’s scholarly standards.

In order to justify his artificially increased capacity of the crematoria in Auschwitz-Birkenau, Zimmerman applies five sleights of hand:

1. He declares that the furnaces at Birkenau had a performance as similar ovens in other camps (Gusen camp, pp. 257f.). He ignores that the furnaces in Birkenau were inferior to those other ovens, because they did not have forced draft blowers.
2. He claims that the emaciated corpses of Auschwitz could be cremated faster (p. 258), ignoring that, first of all, the claimed gassing victims would not have been emaciated – that would have been true only for inmates incarcerated for an extended period of time and suffering and/or dying from either serious diseases (diarrhea, typhus) or malnutrition. Additionally, emaciated corpses with a low body fat content do not burn faster than corpses with an average content of

body fat.

3. He misinterprets a memo by Kurt Prüfer, the engineer responsible for constructing the Birkenau crematorium furnaces, stating that the Birkenau three-muffle ovens had a performance $\frac{1}{3}$ higher than those of double-muffle ovens, as a reduction of cremation time by $\frac{1}{3}$ (p. 258). Performance, however, is a physical term meaning energy per time and corpse. The time required for a cremation was not effected, but the energy, because the three-muffle ovens had only two fire places heating three muffles, so that almost the same energy was required to heat three muffles with three corpses as was required to heat two muffles with two corpses.
4. He repeats the legend that usually three, if not up to eight corpses were cremated at once in a single muffle in Birkenau, relying in this regard on the lying witness Henryk Tauber (pp. 258f.). As proof that such an overloading of the muffles was possible in Auschwitz, Zimmerman quotes newspaper articles of the 1980s and 1990s reporting about cases where civil crematories had illegally cremated many corpses at once in order to gain an advantage in time and thus in efficiency over competitors. Zimmerman should have investigated the features of these modern crematoria and should have compared those to the ovens in Birkenau,



III. 1: Painting by “witness” David Olère, depicting oven doors some 3-4 feet high.⁶ The actual oven doors of the Auschwitz crematoria were only a little over two feet wide and high, with two rolls on either side to guide the stretcher, reducing the usable height of the oven doors down to less than 2 feet with the upper part of the door consisting of a round arch (see III. 2). Note: 1. The lever law prevents a single man from balancing a stretcher as shown with a weight similar to or heavier than his own – since nothing keeps the stretcher up inside the muffle! 2. It is physically impossible to work with a naked upper body in front of open ovens doors whose inside temperature is 1,400-1,800°F. 3. No flames can come out of oven doors of coke-fired ovens. In other words: Olère and others making similar claims are liars.

which would probably have prevented his error. In comparison to the coke-fired ovens of Birkenau, modern crematoria have almost gigantic muffles, because:

- a) they have to accommodate quite large coffins at times – in Auschwitz corpses were cremated without coffins – and
- b) almost all modern crematoria operate with gas burners embedded in the muffle walls, which work efficiently only when they have a minimum distance from the coffin.

But even in such cases, the cremation of multiple corpses at once can succeed only if the fuel consumption is increased accordingly, which, as Zimmerman himself writes, lead to a fire in one of the cases he quotes, because the overcrowded muffle lead to an overheating of oven and flues.

Documents as well as pictures of the ovens in Auschwitz prove that they had been designed for single corpse cremations only. For example, the oven doors were only 600 mm × 600 mm small (23.5 inches), the upper half of which was a rounded arch. (See illustrations 1-3 and illustrations on page 463 of this issue).

5. Zimmerman doubts the times given by Meyer – who is in turn relying on Mattogno's statements – during which the crematoria were inoperable. He conjectures that repair orders for oven doors do not necessarily mean that the affected ovens had been shut down. This may or may not be the case. Due to lack of more detailed information, we can currently only speculate about that. But the fact is that Mattogno has documented many cases where the crematoria were indeed inoperable – Zimmerman ignores them all –, and in some cases, where Mattogno had



III. 2: Oven doors of the type used in the Auschwitz crematoria. Rolls to guide stretcher marked with white ellipses.

only insufficient data, he has estimated cautiously. For long periods of time during the existence of the crematoria, we do not have any documents about their activities. But instead of following Zimmerman's method: "the lack of evidence proves that the crematoria did not operate," Mattogno assumed the worst case: Where there is no evidence, he assumes full operation of the ovens.

In various occasions, Zimmerman proves that he does not know the documents. For instance, he calls the operators of the ovens "Sonderkommando" (p. 254), even though they were never called that.⁷ He thinks that the construction of additional morgues through various camps proves that the morgues of the crematoria could

no longer be used as morgues, hence, that they served as gas chambers (p. 255). The fact is that these additional morgues served only to temporarily store corpses –

J. A. TOPF & SOHNE 8/1/30
Maschinenfabrik
Feuerungstechnisches Baugeschäft

ERFURT, den 16. April 1942

Versandanzeige

An die Zentral-Bauleitung der Waffen SS und Polizei
Konzentrationslager Auschwitz
Auschwitz O/S.

Hierdurch teilen wir Ihnen mit, daß wir heute folgende Sendung auf den Weg
brachten: p. Waggon – ~~Konzentrationslager Auschwitz~~ nach Station:
Auschwitz O/S.

Waggon-Nr. 4.62703 B.M.B.

J. A. TOPF & SOHNE
VERSANDABTEILUNG

Signum	Unsere Auftrag-Nr.	Art der Verpackung	Stück- zahl	Gegenstand	Gewicht in kg Netto	Brutto
J. A. T. & S.	41/2249/1			Teile zu den Topf-Dreimuffel- Öfen:		
	27621	10 lose	10	Einführtüren 600/600 mm i.l. 7 rechts, 3 links	2290	2290
		28/	28	Feuertüren 280 x 350 i.l.	1274	1274
		28	28	Einsatz-Schamottesteine dazu	228	228
		41	41	Luftkanalverschlüsse 108/128	307	307
		6	6	Einbauelemente	402	402

III. 3: Delivery notice (cropped) from April 16, 1942, by the Topf firm for parts of the Auschwitz three-muffle cremation ovens: "10 introduction doors 600/600 mm"

mainly overnight and in order to keep rats out – before they were transported to the morgues of the crematoria.⁸ Finally, Zimmerman repeats Meyer's mistake by misquoting a statement by former camp commander Rudolf Höß. In his statement, Höß did not claim that the crematoria could operate only eight to ten hours a day, as Meyer and Zimmerman claim (p. 260), but eight to ten weeks.⁹

Zimmerman's statements about the alleged open air incinerations in deep pits contain nothing new, perhaps apart from a reference to a more recently released British air photo of the Birkenau camp, where a small plume of smoke can be spotted rising from the back yard of crematorium V. Zimmerman claims that this smoke rises from a mass grave (p. 261).

It is true that smoke rises from an area behind the crematorium V, but it is of course impossible to recognize what kind of a fire caused the smoke. And apart from this, the photo mentioned by Zimmermann is lacking all the evidence that should be there, should the theory of mass extermination in huge pits be true, as Zimmerman and his ilk claim: gigantic pits to the west and north of the camp; gigantic stacks of fuel; fires with smoke plumes covering huge areas; considering the high water table in this swampy area, large areas around those fires would have turned into a huge morass. Nothing remotely similar to this can be seen on this or comparable photos.¹⁰

At the end, Zimmerman tries to salvage the credibility of the statement extracted from Rudolf Höß by the British by means of torture. He does that by claiming that he made similar statements while in Polish custody. Zimmerman claims that Höß was treated nicely while awaiting his lynching party in a Polish prison, but he missed the following lines in Höß' statement about his Polish captors:¹¹

"During the first weeks the incarceration was quite tolerable, but all at once they [the wardens] were exchanged. From their conduct and their talks, which I could not understand but interpret, I could gather that they wanted to finish me off. I always got the smallest piece of bread and only a small ladle of thin soup. [...]"

If the prosecutor had not intervened, they would have finished me off – not just physically, but first of all psychologically."

Although he could cope with quite a lot, so he continued, the psychological torture he was exposed to by his wardens was too much for him.

Here we see the typical tactics "with a carrot and a stick," which was mastered in particular by the Stalinist henchmen, who held Höß captive: First an inmate is mistreated by the "evil" guys, and after that the "good" guys tell him that this will not happen again and that he will be

just fine, if only he is cooperative with their demands. As is known, Höß was treated so well by the Poles that shortly thereafter he was dangling from the Gallows.

The exactitude and reliability of Höß' statements and memoirs, as claimed by Zimmerman, can be deduced, i.a., from the following quotations:¹¹

"Maintaining the fire at the pits, pouring the collected fat [over the burning bodies ...]. They ate and smoked while dragging corpses [...]" (p. 126)

"The bodies were doused first with oil residues, and later with methanol. [...] He also attempted to destroy the bodies with explosives, [...]" (pp. 157ff.)

"Half an hour after the introduction of the gas, the door was opened and the ventilation installation was turned on. Removal of the bodies began immediately [...]" (S. 166.)

I do not have to make any further comment about such nonsense.¹²

So much about Zimmerman's exactitude and reliability.

Notes

¹ It was positively mentioned by Sven Felix Kellerhoff, "Interpretationen und Ideologie", in the German daily *Die Welt*, Sept. 21, 2004.

² *Holocaust Denial. Demographics, Testimonies, and Ideologies*, University Press of America, Lanham, MD, 2000.

³ Lieutenant Colonel Ferency, Representative of the Hungarian Secretary of State for the deportation of Jews, IMT, Blue Series, Vol. 4, p. 367.

⁴ *Concentration Camp Stutthof and its Function in National Socialist Jewish Politics*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004, pp. 91-95.

⁵ See www.holocaust-history.org/auschwitz/body-disposal/~auschwitz/response-to-mattogno/. Mattogno's replies to this: www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/jcz.html; www.vho.org/GB/c/CM/Risposta-new-eng.html.

⁶ Taken from Robert J. van Pelt, *The Case for Auschwitz*, Indiana Univ. Press, Bloomington, IN, 2002, p. 179; also in David Olère, Alexandre Oler, *Witness: Images of Auschwitz*, WestWind Press, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1998; cf. <http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/Holocaust/resource/gallery/olere.htm>

⁷ They are called "Heizer" (stoker); C. Mattogno, *Special Treatment in Auschwitz*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004, pp. 101ff.

⁸ Cf. C. Mattogno, "The Morgues of the Crematoria at Birkenau in the Light of Documents", *TR* 2(3) (2004), pp. 271-294.

⁹ Cf. C. Mattogno, "On the Piper-Meyer-Controversy: Soviet Propaganda vs. Pseudo-Revisionism", *TR* 2(2) (2004), pp. 131-139.

¹⁰ Cf. my Contribution "England's Keele University Spreads Holocaust Propaganda" in this issue.

¹¹ R. Höß, in: M. Broszat (ed.), *Kommandant in Auschwitz*, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, Stuttgart 1958, p. 151.

¹² More about that in my expert report, *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003, pp. 199-201.

Forced Prostitution

Forced Prostitution in State Brothels built by the National Socialists

By Paul Amner

Christa Paul, *Zwangsprostitution*, Edition Hentrich, Berlin, 1994, 240 S., €39.80

Imagine for a minute that the economy of your country was booming so well that your government imported a few million young European men to work in the fields and factories and then, a major war broke out and you and your countrymen were sent off to fight that war and you had to leave your wife or girlfriend at home alone...

Well, not quite alone as there are still a few million good looking healthy young Italians, Frenchmen, Dutchmen, Poles etc. living up the road, only too willing to take your place. It was exactly this scenario that millions of young German men faced after being sent off to fight in WWII.

The German government knew only too well how their men felt about leaving their women, so they decided to offer young ladies-of-the-night the choice between just sitting around in a labor camp or concentration camp doing nothing (because prostitution had been outlawed by the National Socialists), or carrying on with the profession these ladies had chosen to follow before war broke out, i.e., work in a brothel.

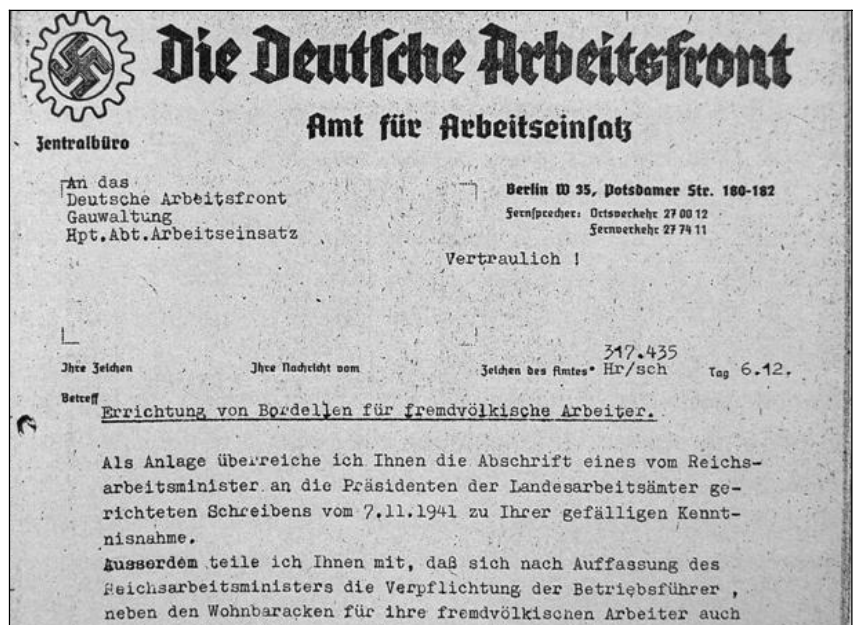
The German Ministry for Labor and "Good Ideas" set up brothels for the foreign Laborers in the labor camps *and* in most concentration camps in order to keep the inmates occupied, satisfied, and away from German women.

Yes I know, the book is called "*Zwangsprostitution*" meaning *forced* prostitution, but the truth is that the title of the book is just as deceptive as the term "*Zwangsarbeiter*" (=Forced Laborer), because most of these people were *paid* for their work and even got vacations and social benefits. If the Nazis had decided to force these women to prostitute themselves, they had the power to do it without the women being paid.

The scan in illustration 2 shows the turn-

over for the Concentration Camp Brothel of Buchenwald on the 11.07.1943. This scan, however, tells us more than just the income for the Buchenwald brothel on that one day. It also tells us that on that one day in 1943, sixteen women catered for ninety-four (94) customers and that (Reichsmarks) RM 188.- exchanged hands.

The laws in the camps, however, forbade prisoners



III. 1: "The German Labor Front, June 1942, Confidential. Re.: Setting up brothels for foreign workers"

Abtl. III Schutzhaftlager Weimar-Buchenwald, den 12.7.43 16						
Einnahme im Bordell am 11.7.43						
Nr.	Name	Zahl	Vergütung I	Vergütung II	Abzu- liefern	
1.	St.	12	24.-	5,40	0,60	18.-
2.	Za	9	18.-	4,05	0,45	13,50
3.	Ra	-	-	-	-	-
4.	En	6	12.-	2,70	0,30	9.-
5.	Fi	8	16.-	3,60	0,40	12.-
6.	Dü	6	12.-	2,70	0,30	9.-
7.	Ch	-	-	-	-	-
8.	By	7	14.-	3,15	0,35	10,50
9.	Ra	6	12.-	2,70	0,30	9.-
10.	Ko	2	4.-	1,35	0,15	4,50
11.	Go	7	14.-	3,15	0,35	10,50
12.	Mi	9	18.-	4,05	0,45	13,50
13.	Wo	6	12.-	2,70	0,30	9.-
14.	He	5	10.-	2,25	0,25	7,50
15.	Zi	4	8.-	1,80	0,20	6.-
16.	Ma	6	12.-	2,70	0,30	9.-
		94	188.-	42,30	4,70	141.-
Den Betrag von RM 141 RM erhalten: H-Standortkasse Weimar-Buchenwald						
Der Schutzhaftlagerführer H-Hauptsturmführer.						

III. 2: Balance sheet of the brothel in Buchenwald concentration camp, July 12, 1943

from keeping sums of money with or on them, as the camps were also home to many criminals and gamblers. This money was not stolen by the camp authorities but kept in safe custody and in the prisoner's name, in kind of a camp bank. It also tells us that the male prisoners had money enough to spend on such questionable delights.

For a prisoner to visit a camp brothel he had to apply, and the application form looked like the one in illustration 5.

Before he was allowed in, though, he was checked for venereal diseases by the camp doctor, and when he was cleared and got inside the brothel, it looked like shown in illustration 3, which is the waiting room in the brothel at the Buchenwald camp. As you can see, it had a radio on the wall, flowers and ashtrays on the sideboard and table.

On the 15th June 1943, however, the fun must have gotten a bit out of hand, because Office D of the SS Economic and Administrative Main Office in Oranienburg felt obliged to send out a circular to the concentration camps of Sachsenhausen, Dachau, Neuengamme, and Auschwitz telling them that during an inspection of these camps it had been noticed that the brothels had been built in the "wrong" places, and that in the future these "Sonderbauten" (special buildings) are to be built in more discrete places where they cannot be surrounded by possible Peeping Toms. (With 16 women and 94 customers, plus Peeping Toms, it makes me wonder who was doing any work?)

The book goes on to relate that the male prisoners referred to these women as "Julias," and they often fell in love with these women. The men were also apt to buy the Julias presents, such as soap or perfume in the camp canteens. O, they robbed the "Effektenlager" (the store rooms where the belongings of the prisoners were stored until they were released) to give a Julia some (body's) pretty

underwear.

While this was all going on, the German *Landser* (soldier) was being shot at, bombed, tortured, sleeping in snow or mud, and going through hell.

All photos taken from Documents on display in Camp museums, or the book "Zwangsprostitution"



III. 3: Waiting room of the Buchenwald camp brothel.

KONZENTRATIONSLAGER MAUTHAUSEN;
SCHUTZHAFTLAGER

Für _____ Häftig.Nr. _____

geb.am _____ Block: _____

Arbeitskommando: _____

Bitte gehorsamt das Bordell
besuchen zu dürfen.

Mauthausen, den _____

(Unterschrift) _____

Kontrollabschnitt A
Häftlings-Nr. _____

Mauthausen, den _____

III. 5: Application form for prisoners in the Mauthausen concentration camp to spend time at the camp brothel.

160

Wirtschafts Verwaltungshauptamt
Antagruppenhof D
- Konzentrationslager -
D I / An. 14 o 9/Ot/S.-
Geheim Tgb.-Nr. 770/43

Oranienburg, den 15. Juni 1943

Betrifft: Sonderbauten in den Konzentrationslagern.
Befragt: Chef des W.-J.-u.V.-Hauptamtes -Gh.Fo/Na.- vom 9.6.43.
Anlagen: keine

Geheim

An die
Lagerkommandanten der
Konzentrationslager
Sachsenhausen, Dachau, Neuengamme und Auschwitz.

Nach Mitteilung des Hauptamtes ist ihm bei der Besichtigung bereits fertiggestellter Sonderbauten aufgefallen, daß diese nicht besonders günstig liegen.
Der Hauptamtschef hat angeordnet, daß bei der Errichtung weiterer Sonderbauten darauf zu achten ist, daß diese ihrer Zweckbestimmung gemäß etwas abseits liegen und nicht von allen möglichen Leuten begafft werden können.

I.V.
Obersturmbannführer

III. 4: Letter of SS Main Office of June 15, 1943, to Sachsenhausen, Dachau, Neuengamme, and Auschwitz camps, ordering that future brothels have to be built at discrete places where inmates cannot gape at what is going on in them.

The Courage of a Secure Retiree

By Gerhard Rudolf

Werner Maser, *Fälschung, Dichtung und Wahrheit über Hitler und Stalin*, Olzog, Munich 2004, cloth, 478 pp., €34.-

The End of Clichés

Did Hitler have Jewish ancestors? Was he a homosexual? Was he a carpet-biting psychopath? Was he an untalented postcard-painter during his youth? Or was he even a lazy good-for-nothing? Or perhaps he suffered under an inferiority complex as a young man? Was he unable to have a dialogue? Was he psychologically or physically ill? Did he drive his niece into suicide?

Even if a rumor is really too far-fetched, it has still been spread about Hitler at some point. Since Hitler has turned into the most beloved doormat of the world, everybody seems to react off his own psychosis at him. Trying to write against such historical garbage seems like a never ending, thankless task. In the work reviewed here, Werner Maser is trying to do exactly that. In 42 independent chapters, he corrects just as many historical legends and forgeries mainly about Adolf Hitler. Josef Stalin has only a minor role in this book, appearing only when he crosses the historical path of Hitler.

Prof. Dr. Werner Maser can look back onto an impressive list of publications on recent German history with a focus on studies of Third Reich history. Many of his books on the Third Reich have been translated into various foreign languages. His is considered one of the foremost experts, if not the most competent expert about the historical person Adolf Hitler.

In order to answer the more trivial questions right away: Hitler had no Jewish ancestors; he had nothing to do with the suicide of his niece; he was an active heterosexual person all through his life; he was a fairly gifted painter and composer (!); since his early childhood, he was known as a very courageous and strong-willed individual; even though he had no academic education, he was very well read; he was a virtuous orator, a gifted diplomatic negotiator, a good listener, a talented military strategist, and on top of it all perfectly healthy both mentally as well as physically, aside from a few minor health issues in his later years due to his age and the stress of

his life during the war.

It is basically the picture of a humane Hitler with several strokes of genius, which Maser holds up against those many lies and forgeries he refutes, supported with many primary sources. Maser treats the dark sides of Hitler – his animosity toward Jews and his unscrupulous will to power – briefly and does not address the background of Hitler's ideological views at all.

Historical Corrections Nonstop

Even if that were all there is to this book, it would be well worth its price. But Maser has more to offer than the mere correction of gossip about Hitler. He also corrects many historical legends, often only in passing and by referring to other literature. I have summarized some of these cases in the table below.

Maser's book is a permanent accusation against a considerable number of his historian colleagues, whom he unmasks as either ideologically biased or incompetent. With his book, Maser destroys the belief of even the most naive reader that German historians are usually objective scholars. For instance, in a footnote regarding German historian Hans-Adolf Jacobsen he writes that Jacobsen

"was occasionally accused of being unable to overcome the ideological 'brain washing,' which he was subjected to as a young officer during his Soviet captivity. There he joined the Stalinist 'National Committee Free Germany,' which had been established on July 13, 1943, in the Soviet Union." (p. 220, fn 18)

Regarding the legal problems, which historians in Germany may face due to Germany's strict censorship laws, he writes frankly:

"The sword of Damocles hovers (not just in Germany) over historians, who depict controversial historical eras in a way as it 'really was' – and who often identify officially codified ideological guidelines as historical forgeries." (p. 220)

Maser subsequently offers as an example the case of German Historian Joachim Hoffmann, whose employer, the German government's Military-Historical Research Office (Militär-geschichtliches Forschungsamt, MGFA),



tried to censor him.¹ Regarding this official historical research department of the German government, Maser states that it adopted a political guideline close to the historical dogmas enforced by former communist East Germany. After the East German communist state collapsed in 1989, most communist historians were taken over by the MGFA (p. 224).

Minefield Holocaust

The real explosives of this book are in those chapters addressing the Holocaust, because Maser dares to tread further on revisionist territory than any other established historian ever did, even though by so doing he makes several mistakes. But because Maser is no expert on the Holocaust, this can hardly surprise.

First it is necessary to state that Maser assumes that a mass extermination of Jews took place in extermination camps erected for that very purpose. This becomes apparent on the second page of his first chapter covering this topic, which discusses the infamous Wannsee conference. He quotes existing documents properly, which all point to a policy of resettlement or deportation, but which in no case refer to exterminations. But Maser opines nevertheless:

“That the conference, which did not even last two hours, addressed the mass extermination of Jews only

peripherally or not at all, as is spread by ‘Auschwitz-deniers,’ is not correct: because soon thereafter, in spring of 1942, the first mass killings of Polish and German Jews started in Belzec in the east of the General Government. The gassings in Auschwitz began in spring of 1942. After the loss of Stalingrad at the end of January 1943, the killings increased considerably, but they were considerably reduced in May of 1943 by the order of Himmler. Yet in fall [recte: spring] of 1944 they increased again enormously.” (p. 301)

Although Maser supports almost all of his other claims with an abundance of source material, this claim is totally unsupported, not even by a reference to an encyclopedia. 50 pages later he does the same again when declaring sweepingly:

“In contrast to, e.g., Auschwitz-Birkenau, Treblinka, Sobibor, and Belzec, which had been planned as extermination camps from the start, the Majdanek camp close to Lublin, which was managed by the SS and subjected to the immediate orders of Himmlers, was supposed to operate as a huge industrial production plant between spring of 1941 until the end of 1942, making the SS almost independent from the Wehrmacht regarding supplies. This turned out to be unrealistic, though, and finally turned Majdanek into an extermination camp as well, for probably some

LEGEND	TRUTH
Three million soviet soldiers were deliberately left to die of starvation in German POW camps.	1.784 million Soviet soldiers who were taken prisoners by the Germans did not return home, mainly because of Stalin's politics of "scorched earth," which made it impossible to deliver sufficient supplies to both the German troops and all the prisoners they had taken. (p. 106)
Hitler is responsible for the escalation of the air warfare.	The British air force started the air warfare, and Hitler reluctantly reacted to these provocations. (pp. 111f)
The massacre after the so-called Röhm-Putsch was initiated by Hitler.	Röhm had indeed planned a putsch and was thus the initiator of the massacre, of which he became a victim because Hitler intervened personally. (p. 115)
Concentration camps were an invention of the Third Reich.	Earlier the first president of the Weimar Republic, Friedrich Ebert, put left-wing extremists into concentration camps, and the USA relocated Japanese residing on U.S. soil into concentration camps. (p. 116)
The fire of the Reichstag-building shortly after Hitler rose to power was set by the Nazis; the communist Marius van der Lubbe was only the scapegoat.	Marius van der Lubbe was indeed the sole perpetrator. (p. 143)
The Allied victors treated their prisoners decently.	Nicolaus von Below, Hitler's adjutant, reported in detail how he was kept in coercive detention until he "confessed" what his captors wanted him to. Von Below "took them for a ride." (pp. 158f.)
The secret protocol to the Hitler-Stalin-Pact stated that the Baltic countries and other eastern Europeans areas could be annexed by the USSR.	The definition of "spheres of interest" was not considered to be equal to the right to invade and annex other countries, as a German protest note declared on Nov. 3, 1940. (p. 197)
Hitler made a wild dance after Paris surrendered.	This is a forged film footage. (p. 203)
Hitler attacked the peace-loving Soviet Union without provocation.	The German Wehrmacht waged a preventive war against the Red Army, which made preparations to overrun entire continental Europe. (pp. 216-261)

250,000 inmates.” (p. 353)

Of course, Maser’s claim about Auschwitz having been planned as an extermination camp is in sharp contrast even to what the established literature maintains – Auschwitz-Birkenau had been planned as a POW camp and a reservoir for labor. But Maser is perhaps unaware of it, since he does not give any sources, suggesting that he is merely writing from his own geriatric memory. His claims about Treblinka,² Sobibor, Belzec,³ and Majdanek⁴ are just as unfounded. But who cares? After all, aren’t those claims self-evident anyway? But even if a mass murder did occur, that does not prove Maser’s claim that such a mass murder was discussed during the Wannsee conference. The alleged protocol of this conference does not mention mass murder anywhere.

On pages 317f., Maser reproduces both versions of the accompanying letter to the so-called Wannsee Protocol, which was first revealed to be a forgery by Roland Bohlinger and Johannes Peter Ney.⁵ Maser comments as follows:

“A forged document for the Nuremberg trial: Both letters, allegedly written by Reinhard Heydrich to Under Secretary of State Martin Luther on January 25, 1942, have the same text. One of them is a forgery. It must remain open, which purpose this forgery was supposed to serve.”

Maser does not utter a single word about the fact that there are two versions of the so-called Wannsee Protocol as well – one with normal SS characters, the other with rune-shaped SS characters.⁶ Is he unaware of it?

For his claim that the Holocaust was indeed ordered by Hitler – verbally of course, which means: without leaving documentary traces, as Maser insists (pp. 311, 371) – he cites two sources: The statements by Wilhelm Höttl and Adolf Eichmann (p. 306). Only in passing I may point out that Maser himself calls Höttl a braggart 23 pages later (p. 329).⁷

A little later, Maser quotes Eichmann more thoroughly, referring to the interrogations taped while in Israeli custody:

“To the question [...], if the ‘protocol’ compiled by him is accurate, Eichmann answered: ‘The protocol gives the essential points [...]’” (p. 313)

Subsequently, Maser summarizes the essential points of the protocol, during which he emphasizes that it mentions evacuations of the Jews to the east, but not mass murder. In other places as well, Maser asserts repeatedly that in the context of the Final Solution of the Jewish question the words used were always “emigration” or “deportation,” for instance when Hitler talked about it in confidentiality (pp. 310, 312) or when Albert Speer came in touch with this issue while organizing the labor de-

ployment of Jewish forced workers (p. 325).

Let us summarize: Maser claims that there cannot be any doubt that the physical extermination of the Jews was discussed during the Wannsee Conference as an order from Hitler. He calls Eichmann as his witness that there was a verbal order of Hitler. During his interrogation in Israel in 1961, Eichmann confirmed that the protocol properly represents what was discussed during this conference. Yet this protocol does not mention any murder to be committed against the Jews at all. We therefore have to conclude that there was either no discussion of murdering the Jews during the Wannsee conference – which is also claimed by all participants who were interrogated about it after the war – or that the content of the Wannsee Protocol does *not* properly reflect the real content of what was discussed during this conference. Therefore, at least one of the claims made by Eichmann is wrong: Either the protocol does not reflect what was discussed or Hitler did not order the physical extermination of the Jews. Eichmann’s testimony is therefore not reliable.

Maser knows, of course, that German officials like Höttl and Eichmann used to “tune” the truth while in allied captivity in order to avoid or end torture or coercive detention. He describes in detail the case of Hitler’s adjutant Nicolaus von Below (pp. 158f.). But it does not seem to cross Maser’s mind that under such circumstances the testimonies of unreliable witnesses is hardly helpful to illuminate historical facts.

On p. 330, Maser displays considerable naiveté when claiming that the Israeli court had sentenced Adolf “Eichmann to death during a fair trial.” I may point out several facts which make his claim rather unlikely.

Whereas the Israeli authorities conducted investigations against Eichmann over many years with a team of several hundreds experts and the support of all governments and archives of the entire world,⁸ Eichmann and his lawyer Robert Servatius had almost no opportunity to prepare the case for the defense. This massive imbalance between prosecution and defense was similar to those during the immediate post-war trials in Germany. It was no one less than Hannah Arendt who pointed out this massive imbalance and made the comparison with the IMT.⁹

Franz J. Scheidl mentions that Servatius was not allowed to talk to his client in private and that the Israeli authorities refused to give him access to protocols of Eichmann’s interrogation.¹⁰

German witnesses from the side of the “perpetrators” (former members of German authorities) who intended to testify in defense of Eichmann, were threatened with immediate arrest and criminal prosecution when stepping foot on Israeli soil. There were therefore no such wit-

nesses.¹¹

During the rising scandal surrounding the extradition and prosecution of U.S. citizen John Demjanjuk by Israel in the late 1980s and early 1990s, a small Jewish periodical in Germany criticized the show trial character of the Demjanjuk trial, comparing it with the same atmosphere during the Eichmann trial.¹² There can indeed be little doubt about the show trial character of both trials, especially if considering their circumstances – staged in a theater, live transmission of the hearings through radio and TV, turning all Israel into a state of mass hysteria.

In my eyes, an effective defense is impossible under such conditions. If considering the defense strategy of Robert Servatius, it becomes clear that he was neither willing nor able to try to fight the show character of this trial. Dr. Servatius did not even try to conduct his defense remotely similar to any other case, during which the defendant is accused of a capital offense: Not a single witness was cross examined; not a single expert report about the claimed mass murder scenarios, the murder methods, traces of the perpetrators, of their victims, of the murder weapon or of any other traces of the crime were requested or offered. In other words: this was not a trial but a put-up job, but not by means of a conspiracy between prosecution, judges and defense. Rather, the ubiquitous propaganda and the show trial character had a mentally paralyzing effect on all participants.

How is it that in cases of trials against serial killers everybody assumes as a matter of course that the prosecution has to come up with forensic investigations on traces of the crime, of the victim, of the perpetrator and his weapon(s), but that even the most competent defense lawyer – together with the rest of humanity – considers it obvious that an even more severe accusation against a defendant, that is, that he is involved in the murder of six million people, does *not* require such evidence? That was so during the International Military Tribunal and all the other trials immediately after the war, during the Jerusalem trials (Eichmann, Demjanjuk) as well as during all (!) trials against alleged National Socialist crimes held in post-war Germany and in other European nations. Not in a single case did a lawyer, prosecutor, or judge ever come up with the idea of asking for forensic evidence about the biggest crime that defendants were ever accused in the history of mankind. This gigantic accusation of such horrendous crimes is so extremely traumatizing and paralyzing that it seems to block every normal process of thinking and acting.

It is of course also necessary to consider what would have happened to a defense attorney, had he demanded such evidence. According to the current German legal situation, a defense lawyer actually commits a crime if

asking for such evidence, because by so doing he questions the veracity of the claims made by the prosecution, and this amounts to “Holocaust denial.” This activity, however, is a crime in Germany even if committed merely indirectly by a defense lawyer while asking for evidence.¹³ This new interpretation of the law was introduced in Germany after lawyers of revisionists (= “deniers”) had woken up and were trying to do their duty (namely: Hajo Herrmann, Ludwig Bock, Günther Herzogenrath-Amelung, Jürgen Rieger, Herbert Schaller, and others). The outrage that resulted when a defense attorney dared to expose contradictions in the testimonies of “eyewitnesses” during the 1980 Majdanek trial in Düsseldorf, Germany,¹⁴ indicates that challenging the crime itself by asking for physical evidence would probably had rendered any defense impossible, because such a lawyer would have been exposed to the massive hatred of the media, the audience in the court room, and in particular of the prosecution and the judges. I therefore dare to conclude that it is impossible, for mere psychological reasons, to have *any* fair trials against individuals accused of having committed – or having been involved in – National Socialist crimes. This is quite comparable to the medieval witch trials, which for similar psychological reasons could not possibly be fair under any circumstances either.

Even though Maser himself quotes numerous documents mentioning an “evacuation” of Jews, he does not believe Eichmann who claimed during his defense in Jerusalem that he only organized this evacuation. But if what Eichmann organized was indeed merely an evacuation – the circumstances of which were terrible enough for the victims – what is supposed to be wrong with this statement of Eichmann? And which “circumstantial evidence” is Maser talking about, which in his mind “irrefutably” speaks a different language? He does not give us the slightest clue.

To cut a long story short: Maser does not even try to refer to any evidence supporting his thesis regarding the mass murder of the Jews. He does not even quote a single secondary source! I do not know if he, at some point, intended to correct that deficiency by trying to deceive his readers, because that is the impression one must get on page 307, where he tries to create the illusion of such a proof. He reproduces a document (see illustration) and adds the following caption:

“Hitler’s order (‘Top Secret!’) of December 1942 to Himmler, after coordination with him and the French Minister President Pierre Laval (1883-1945), who had visited Hitler on December 18, 1942, in East Prussia, to ‘deport’ and exterminate 600,000 to 700,000 French Jews.”

But in the document he reproduces, not a single word mentions extermination, not even if one applies the infamous “code language.”

In other words: The result of his research is already predetermined for Werner Maser: Hitler has ordered the killing of Jews, and it was thusly executed. That there is no evidence for either the order or the execution of it does not bother him.

Maser touches upon the role of Albert Speer during the Third Reich and criticizes Speer’s autobiography as an attempt at whitewashing himself (pp. 320-325). Maser is correct, as far as Speer’s attempts are concerned to suggest for posterity that he had no knowledge at all of the bad treatment of the Jews deployed as forced laborers in the construction projects supervised by him. A multitude of documents with Speer’s signature, however, proves that he knew very well what was done to the Jews. But Maser clearly overstretches his criticism when claiming that Speer had any knowledge of the Holocaust. The documents quoted only prove that Speer knew about forced deportations to the east and that those Jews were deployed at will as slave workers. After all, it was Speer

himself who organized these construction projects. But Maser is insincere when trying to construct knowledge of mass extermination from these facts.

After producing so much hot air about the Holocaust, Maser makes some very interesting points from p. 332 onward:

“Although [...] the extermination of the Jews is considered to be one of the best researched aspects of contemporary history [...], yet this is not the case. [...] Entire territories are still terra incognita, not only, [...] but also because [...] German historians shy away from addressing these horrors and to dig up details, which do not agree with depictions multiplied for years.” (S. 332).

Remember what German historian Prof. Hellmut Diwald wrote back in 1979 in the first edition of his book *Geschichte der Deutschen* (History of the Germans):¹⁵

“What really happened [under the header ‘Final Solution’] during the following years [after 1940], is still unclear in central issues despite all the literature.”

The outrage of the “politically correct” mob following this statement has been thoroughly documented by Dr. Armin Mohler and Prof. Robert Hepp.¹⁶ The German publisher of Diwald’s book withdrew the book from the market and without asking the author for permission replaced this sentence with a plethora of politically correct statements about the incomprehensible horrors of the Holocaust devoid of any factual content. Now Maser commits a similar sin, but in contrast to Prof. Diwald, he supports his thesis with evidence. Will that help him against the mob? We will see...

After this spicy introduction, Maser discusses the questionable basis for the victim count of the Holocaust: he juxtaposes the 26 million victims claimed by the Swiss newspaper *Berner Tagwacht* on August 24, 1945, to the 1.5 million victims claimed by another Swiss newspaper, the *Baseler Nachrichten* of June 13, 1946 – two classic sources often quoted by revisionists (p. 333). He then confuses the *total* Holocaust victim number of six million spread by soviet propagandist Ilya Ehrenburg several months before the end of the war¹⁷ with the four million victims of the Auschwitz camp as claimed by the Soviets at the IMT. In connection with the official reduction of the Auschwitz death toll from four million to 1.5 million, Maser quotes the Polish journalist Ernest Skalski:

“I admit that one has to hide the truth sometimes – that is, one has to lie, sometimes even for honorable motives, for example due to compassion or sensitivity. [...] Even if the truth is not always the good thing, the lie is more often the evil thing. [...]” (p. 334)

Somehow I cannot get rid of the impression that

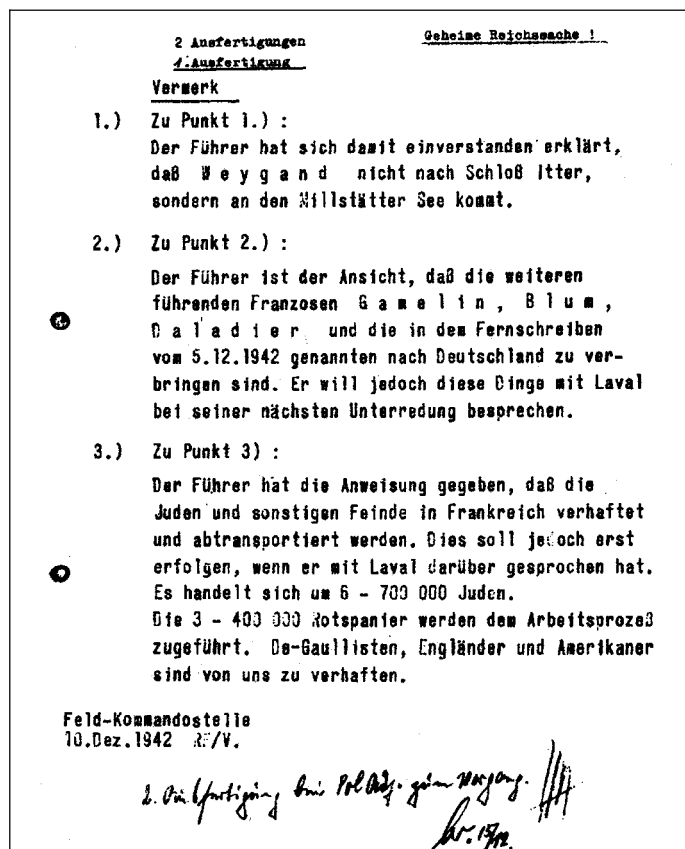


Illustration 1: Plan to deport French Jews after foreign Jews have already been deported from occupied France. This project was never realized. Werner Maser claims wrongly that Hitler had ordered the extermination of these Jews.

Werner Maser has read my Book *Lectures on the Holocaust*, in which I quoted Skalski exactly in that way.¹⁸

Next Maser quotes Yehudah Bauer, professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, as well as Léon Poliakov, Gerald Reitlinger, and Raul Hilberg, each of them giving different numbers for the total victim count of the Holocaust. His line of argument and the sources he quotes follow a pattern well known to revisionists, even if the way he tries to connect the dots indicates that Maser does not fully master this topic.¹⁹ And indeed: In lack of a “better” source he quotes my German revisionist journal *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung*, the German sister magazine of *The Revisionist*, for the first time in his footnote 73 on p. 334! Of course by making some denigrating remarks:

“Although this journal is obviously an obscure organ of right-wing radical contemporaries, the documents reproduced in it doubtlessly have documentary value. This journal is quoted in this book only where this is clearly the case.”

In other words: Maser claims that some of the documents I reproduce in my journals may not have documentary value, i.e., they are suspected to be forgeries. This implicit suspicion of forgery is of course completely unfounded and amounts to defamation.²⁰ Subsequently Maser quotes only those documents and contributions from my journal which support his thesis. Ignoring evidence and arguments that run contrary to one’s thesis is what he seems to call scholarly behavior. But at least Werner Maser is reading revisionist journals and cannot help but quote them at least once in a while. That is at least a start!

In the introduction to his new book on pp. 25f., Maser clearly indicates that his knowledge of Revisionism is not very deep, because he make a series of embarrassing mistakes:

- Paul Rassinier was a teacher (primarily for geography), not professor.
- Rassinier never claimed anywhere that the “thesis of six million Jews” was “invented by world Jewry,” per Maser. And such a claim was also never “elevated to a proven fact” by any other revisionist. Maser is in “good” company with this false claim. Michael Shermer and Alex Grobman made a similar faulty claim in their book *Denying History* (2000, p. 106), but that does not make it true. This raises the suspicion that Maser has not read Rassinier’s books.
- Maser misquotes revisionist literature:
 1. Emil Aretz is given as the author of the brochure *Die Auschwitz-Lüge* (The Auschwitz Lie), when in fact it was written by Thies Christophersen. Aretz was the author of the book *Hexeneinmaleins einer Lüge* (The Witchcraft Tables of a Lie).²¹
 2. As the title of Prof. Dr. Arthur R. Butz’ book he gives *The Hoax of the Century*, omitting the *Twentieth*.

– Maser writes erroneously that Fred Leuchter and I had claimed that the “rock samples of Auschwitz analyzed by us did not contain any compounds of prussic acid (cyanide compounds).” It would be correct if Maser had written that the “wall samples of the (alleged) gas chambers of Auschwitz did not contain any significant compounds of prussic acid (cyanide compounds).” Maser gives no reference to either the Leuchter Report or to my expert report.²²

On his pages 335f., Maser positively mentions a paper authored by German journalist Fritjof Meyer, in which he reduced the Auschwitz death toll down to half a million and in which he decommissioned the Auschwitz crematories as locations of mass extermination.²³ Maser attacks polemic critics of Meyer’s work, written by German journalist Sven Felix Kellerhoff and former German left-wing terrorist turned right-wing radical Horst Mahler, who had the chutzpah to file a criminal complaint against Meyer for Holocaust denial (which was, of course, ignored). It seems, though, that Maser’s knowledge of the topic is not deep enough to enable him to get involved in the factual debate around Meyer’s thesis.²⁴

On p. 336, Maser briefly mentions the microwave delousing facility installed in Auschwitz, but wrongly places its location in the so-called “Central Sauna” in Birkenau (BW 32). As a matter of fact, this device was installed in BW 160, the new reception building at the Auschwitz main camp.²⁵

On the same page, Maser refers to an alleged inspection of a homicidal gassing by Himmlers in Auschwitz in summer of 1942 – without reference. However, using numerous documents, Carlo Mattogno has exposed this myth to be unfounded.²⁶

On page 339, Maser’s own revisionism gets some momentum:

“Stalin’s four million dogma initiated the creating of entire libraries, whose authors were primarily concerned to support this guideline of Stalin and not only to prove it with ‘source references,’ but to even correct it following Ilya Ehrenburg’s fantasy figure [...]. Neither he nor other chroniclers understood that Stalin’s only concern was to prevent by means of his own exaggerations and artificial criteria that he and his responsible functionaries would be exposed as criminals against humanity in front of the world. [...] For many of them it did not matter that Stalin had untruthfully depicted those two million Jews, which could not return home from the USSR after the war because they had lost their lives there, as victims of the NS regime.” (emphasis added)

"On Hitler's 53rd birthday, April 20, 1942, German counter intelligence reported from Krakow that the Polish underground movement had printed thousands of posters similar to the format and style of the German 'announcements,' which state that the General Government has ordered as 'announcement no. 35' 'an ... excursion of a committee of all ethnic groups living in Poland to Auschwitz' to be organized. 'The excursion shall investigate,' so the ironic-dreadful text presumably originating from the infamous lying 'poison kitchen' of Sefton Delmers and Ellic Howes, which followed the first German public reports about 3,000 Polish victims exhumed from mass graves in Katyn, 'how, in comparison to the methods used by the bolshevists, humanitarian the means are which are used for the mass extermination of the Polish people. German science performed a miracle for European culture; instead of brutal massacres against troublesome rabble, one can see the gas and steam chambers, electric plates, asf., with which thousands of Poles are delivered most rapidly from life to death, and in a way which will be to the honor of the entire German nation. It suffices to indicate that the crematorium alone can finish up 3,000 corpses a day.'" (S. 341, emphasis added)

In footnote 103 he explains:

"In a personal interview with me Ellic Howe stated on June 12, 1967, that he could no longer remember exactly who had written that text."

As explosive as Maser's statement seems, he probably made a mistake with the year, because the mass graves of Katyn were discovered only at the end of March 1943 and subsequently used by the German propaganda. But let's hear more of what Maser has to say:

"In May or June of 1942, the underground movement in Auschwitz succeeded for the first time to send a report to London, in which a reference to 'gassings in gas chambers' during 'recent times' can be found. On August 25, 1942, the British Secret Service was informed by these Poles that sick people had been gassed; on August 29 that the SS had erected two 'chambers specifically built for that purpose,' in which 1,200 inmates would fit; and that until August of 1942 300,000 had already been killed, which the Brits accepted without a word as well, even though everybody could see that this was a fantasy figure that had nothing to do with reality. But not even the report of the camp partisans of October 10, 1942, which stated that only 30,000 male and 150 (yet probably 15,000) female Jews had been deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp, of which 10,000 had been murdered, led to any corrections.

For the British Secret Service, the decisive reason for covering up these propaganda lies was that they had to make an effort to oppose the German propaganda, which was supported by authentic facts, in spite of the fact that the British knew about the Katyn crimes of the Red Army and Stalin's mendacious disinformation measures. But not only the British ignored their knowledge in favor of Stalin; the Americans did the very same thing. Thus, the U.S. Office of War Information in London decided to 'blow up the crimes of the Germans in Poland and other occupied countries.'

The boundless exaggerations of the enemy propaganda – not just that of the Soviets – about Auschwitz and the concentration camp Birkenau, which was erected later, were based on the data and news of secret reports of the communist Auschwitz inmates, who sent their version of the events in the camp – by radio transmitters – via Krakow to London. 'I believe it is no exaggeration if I say,' explained the former communist functionary Bruno Baum in 1949, 'that the most part of Auschwitz propaganda, which was spread around the world during that time, had been written by ourselves in the camp.' That these propaganda versions, which were intended to attract attention, were exaggerated, was even admitted by Victor Cavendish-Bentinck, the president of the Allied 'Joint Intelligence Committees' in August of 1943, when he explained that statements from Polish and Jewish sources about gassings were invented and comparable to the propaganda of Germany's enemies during the First World War, where Germans were accused to have produced soap from the fat of corpses. 'I think', he admitted, 'that we weaken our case against the Germans by publicly giving credence to atrocity stories for which we have no evidence ... As regards putting Poles to death in gas chambers, I do not believe that there is any evidence that this has been done.'

If the British had published what their Secret Service knew since summer of 1941 and what he was able to learn in the following time, they would have contributed to revealing certain aspects of the extermination of Jews, but at the same time they would have back-stabbed their ally USSR, who tried hard to stabilize her propaganda lie about the killings of Katyn, which had been personally ordered by Stalin on March 5, 1940, by inventing further untrue propaganda versions and by depicting the crime committed by Soviet forces as a crime of the German Wehrmacht. Furthermore, the British would also have been forced to assume responsibility for publicly spreading Soviet forgeries of history as authentic information. On March 23, 1943, for instance, 37 days after the open-

ing of the Katyn mass graves by the Wehrmacht together with Polish helpers had started – in the first mass grave the remains of 3,000 murdered Poles were exhumed – the radio station ‘Swiet’, run by the British Secret Service and broadcasting in the Polish language, published the invented claim, meant as counter propaganda, of their eastern agent Stefan Karbonski, according to which the Germans would burn some 3,000 people every day in the crematory of Auschwitz, ‘mainly Jews.’ On April 15, 1943, ‘Pravda’ tried energetically to thwart the figure 3,000, which had also been published by the German broadcasting service on April 13, 1943, in the context of the first exhumed Polish victims of mass murder. ‘Pravda’ attempted to blame the Germans for the crime of Kaytn.

The morgue of the concentration camp Auschwitz had a area of 210 square meters, which was known to the British Secret Service due to reports smuggled out of the camp by the Stalinist underground movement inside the camp. Considering the horrible situation, in which the authors of these reports found themselves, their reports cannot be considered historically accurate. The British knew therefore that it was impossible to put 14 persons onto one square meter. But they silently put up with this version.” (pp. 342f., emphases added)

And now some samples of what Maser has to say about some of the better known Auschwitz witnesses:

“[...] the information given by Wetzler and Vrba were compilations of statements by other inmates; because they themselves had never either witnessed a gassing or seen a gas chamber. What they conferred, they had been told in Auschwitz for example by their communist comrade Filip Müller. [...] What they [the Allies] learned from Wetzler and Vrba were descriptions from ‘hearsay’ [...]. Additionally, neither of these two reporters could be described as reliable couriers. Vrba evidently tended to exaggerations, and Wetzler [...] turned out to be a would-be poet [...]” (p. 344)

To this, Maser adds a quick criticism of the claims made by Wetzler/Vrba. Maser does not only accuse both of inaccuracies, but also of boundless exaggerations, which “was also done by the Auschwitz ‘supplier of facts’ Filip Müller,” whose 1979 book²⁷ Maser, with reference to Jean-Claude Pressac,²⁸ considers to be a “novel based on a true story” (p. 345). With at least one of his “facts,” however, Müller proves himself a liar, which I want to explain to Prof. Maser so he can better understand the scope and scale of the lies of this witness:²⁹

“The two pits that had been excavated had a length of 40 to 50 meters, were roughly 8 meters wide and 2

meters deep. But the large extermination site was far from finished. After the rough work had been done, the details thought out by Moll were to be implemented, which revealed an extermination fantasy of horrifying inventiveness.

Together with his assistant Eckart, the killer engineer climbed down into a pit and marked a strip some 25 to 30 centimeters wide onto the bottom, running along the length of the pit. By taking out the soil, a canal was to be made with a slight slope from the middle to both ends, so that the fat of the corpses burning in the pit could flow into two collecting containers excavated at the end of the canal at the both sides.”

And later:³⁰

“Because the heap of corpses collapsed more and more and would not get any air from outside, we stokers had to constantly pour oil, methanol, and human fat onto the burning mass in the pit. The fat had accumulated in abundance in the two collecting containers at the head ends of the pit, where it was boiling. Using a long iron pole that was bent like a walking stick at the lower end, the simmering fat was scooped out with buckets, which we grabbed with thick gloves. When the fat was poured into the pit at all possible places, huge flames shot up with intense hissing and crackling.”

Yet fat does not boil. It decomposes and automatically bursts into flames at high temperatures. It is therefore impossible that fat can accumulate within a fire, because in the presence of embers or flames, it catches fire when heated above 184°C (363°F). It follows from this that fat flowing out of corpses, which are lying in a fire, would automatically burn (compare the grease dripping onto the embers of a barbecue grill).

But back to Maser’s witness critique:

“The ‘witnesses’ Wetzler and Vrba were not the only ones who told their stories in order to achieve the use of military force to liberate the inmates. [...] In order to achieve this, propaganda versions, lies and forgeries were justifiable in his eyes and in the eyes of Vrba.” (p. 346, emphasis added)

Miklos Nyiszli is ripped apart in Maser’s footnote 145:

“Nyiszli [...] lied excessively [...] in his book that appeared in 1947 in communist Romania.” (p. 348, emphasis added)

As a reason why the crown witnesses of the gas chamber murder lied, exaggerated, and forged so excessively, Maser states:

“The witnesses reporting about the murder with gas in the Auschwitz crematoria I and II, the in-

mates Henryk Tauber and the physicians Charles Sigismund Bendel and Miklos Nyiszli, did not do that under the circumstances of a state under the rule of law, but under the psychological and physical pressure of their interrogators." (pp. 348f.)

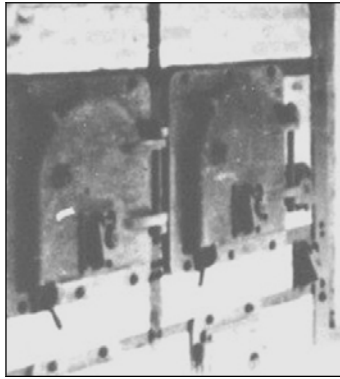
Maser does not say more about Henryk Tauber, a witness who, according to Maser, had seen more than Vrba and Wetzler "while being a stoker at the Auschwitz crematorium I." But similar to Müller – and similarly ignored by Maser – Tauber as well reported about a³¹

"pit close to the crematorium, which was full of boiling human fat. At that time, corpses were being burned in open pits, from which the fat flowed in a separate reservoir that had been dug into the ground. This fat was poured over the corpses in order to accelerate the incineration."

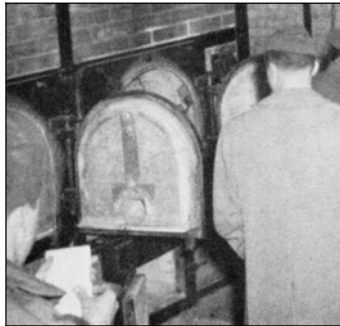
Tauber reaches another climax of his invented tales when describing his activity as a stoker in crematorium II.³¹

"When cremating these corpses, we used coke only to ignite the fire, because fat corpses burned by themselves, because their body fat burned. Occasionally, if we were short of coke, we put straw and wood into the ash container underneath the muffle, and once the fat of the corpses had caught fire, the other corpses started to burn by themselves. [...] We generally burned four to five corpses at once in one muffle, but often we put more corpses into the oven. One could put eight Muselmen [emaciated corpses] at once into it. Such a large number of corpses were burned at once without the knowledge of the head of the crematorium, if air raid alarm was given; the especially large flames shooting out of the chimneys were meant to attract the attention of the pilots. We believed that this way we could give our fate a push."

As early as 1993 I explained why this description is technically absurd for various reasons:³⁴ a large part of the corpses consists of water, which is why enormous amounts of energy is required to cremate them within a short period of time in a crematorium oven. A brief call at a crematorium would suffice to find out that corpses do not burn by themselves. It is not necessary to consult expert literature for this.³⁵ However, only the consultation of original construction plans of the Auschwitz crematory ovens reveals that it would have been impossible to put four, five, or even eight corpses into one muffle at a time,



III. 2: Oven doors of crematorium II in Birkenau.³²



III. 3: Same doors – with humans around to compare sizes – at the crematorium in Buchenwald.³³

because the oven doors were constructed for introducing only one corpse without coffin at a time. The doors were only 60 cm wide, and above the roles upon which the corpse stretcher was placed, the doors measured only 50 cm, the upper 30 cm being part of a circular arch (see illustration 2f.). It is also impossible that flames shoot out of crematory chimneys³⁶ or that one could start cremations in the Auschwitz ovens by lighting a fire in the ash container underneath the muffle. This would have reversed the flow of the oven gas: fresh air would have been drawn from the chimney, and the hot exhaust gasses would have been pushed into the oven room.³⁷ So compared to the other liars, what exactly is more credible about Tauber's statement?

Even though Maser concedes that it was not always the free decision of the inmates to tell their lies and exaggerations, but that they did so "under the psychological and physical pressure of their interrogators" – what are we supposed to consider as "physical pressure"? – he refuses to acknowledge the same kind of circumstances when witnesses from the SS were interrogated.

For instance, he mentions that during his Krakow trial former Auschwitz camp commander Rudolf Höß recanted his affidavit introduced at the Nuremberg trial, but Maser does not mention at all that Höß was tortured by his British captors to make him sign an affidavit he could not even read. The veracity of this "third degree" interrogation is today generally acknowledged.³⁸ Maser also omits that Höß reported during his custody in Poland about very rough treatments he received from his Polish prison guards.³⁹

In the same sentence about Henryk Tauber, who had allegedly "seen more," Maser also refers to SS-Hauptsturmführer Hans Aumeier as a reliable witness for the gas chambers. Aumeier was commander of the Auschwitz main camp from February 16, 1942, until August 15, 1943. He was captured by the British on June 11, 1945, in Norway. During his first interrogation he still naively claimed to have no knowledge about homicidal gassings, but after Aumeier had been interrogated again and was ordered to give exact answers about the how and how many of such gassings as well as about his own responsibility for them – he was no longer given the choice to argue that it did not happen or that he did not know – his British captors could announce success:⁴⁰

"The interrogator is satisfied that the major part of

the material of this report is in conformity with the truth as far as the facts are concerned, but the personal reactions of Aumeier and his way of thinking may change a bit when his fate gets worse." (emphasis added)

Thus, the "truth" had already been "established" beforehand by the British in summer of 1945, because they had been "enlightened" about it by the Soviets. And the British were confident that they would be able to completely break Aumeier's already weakening resistance.

Did Aumeier therefore make his confessions "very obviously without force," as Maser proclaims, so that his testimony "does not allow for doubts about the gassings"? (p. 347) But already the content of Aumeier's testimony as quoted by Maser reveals a different story:

"According to my memory", he confessed – very obviously without force, 'it was in the month of November or December 1942 when the first gassing of some 50-80 Jews inmates was conducted. [...]

We were all quite scared and excited, but he [the camp commander] continued to say to us that the entire affair would be a top secret matter and that due to our oath we could be punished with death by the RFSS [Himmler] if we talked about these events. We also had ... to sign a declaration, which was stored at the L.K. [camp commander...]

In the meantime, two empty houses close to the burial sites were equipped with gas chambers by the construction office. One house had two, the other four chambers. The houses were called Bunker I and II. Each chamber could hold roughly 50 to 150 people. End of January <1943> or in February, the first gasings were performed there.'" (pp. 347f.)

Historically seen, Aumeier's testimony doesn't make any sense, because he massively contradicts other statements: His chronology of the alleged events of mass murder are in crass contradiction to the version, which is considered to be "true" by the established Holocaust historiography and which was compiled by calculating a statistical average of many contradicting witness statements. According to this, the first gassing is supposed to have happened in fall or winter of 1941 in the arrest bunker 11.⁴¹ The bunkers in Birkenau are not supposed to have gone into operation during January/February 1943, but in spring or summer of 1942.⁴⁰ The number of chambers and their maximum load is also not in agreement with what we are told today to be "true." Even Aumeier's claim that the SS men had to sign a declaration under threat of death penalty is not in conformity with what various German courts have determined after the war: There was neither ever a threat nor even a putative threat, because no SS man was ever forced to do what they are claimed to have

done, and there is also no evidence that they ever had to sign any document of secrecy.

But why did Aumeier make up these bold lies in his second testimony, if he did not tell such lies during his first interrogation? The answer is easy regarding the false dates he gives: He moved the gassing stories to a time frame, during which he was present at Auschwitz (spring 1942 to summer 1943), because this was the only way that enabled him to confess the things his captors demanded him to confess.

Considering all this, who can seriously believe that Aumeier made his statements without force?

As his last sentence in his chapter about the Holocaust, Maser writes this summarizing sentence:

"And not rarely the contradictions [of the official Holocaust version] were striking indeed. (p. 350)

It seems that Prof. Maser has scratched only the surface of these contradictions.

Gas Chambers in the Reich Proper

Maser's chapter following his elaborations on the Holocaust with the title "Controversial: Gas Chambers for Mass Extermination on German Soil" is probably the best chapter in Maser's book, seen from a revisionist viewpoint. In it, he not only summarizes this controversy raging now for some 45 years, for which he — horrible dictu — quotes my German journal *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* two more times.⁴²

Maser also adds new aspects to this discussion. For example, he discusses the case of the alleged gas chamber in the Sachsenhausen camp in detail, during which he also quotes the witness testimonies of Fritz Dörbeck and Gerhart Schirmer. Both witnesses were German soldiers who had been incarcerated as POWs in the Sachsenhausen camp by the Soviets after the war. In separate sworn affidavits, Dörbeck and Schirmer had testified that they were ordered by the Soviets to build a gas chamber in that camp after the war for propaganda purposes, so that the gruesome device could be shown to visitors. Maser concludes:

"That the Soviets ordered the erection of the gas chamber [in the Sachsenhausen camp] in fall of 1945 was a result of the boundlessly exaggerated claims by the Soviet prosecutors during the Nuremberg trials about the number of victims murdered in the camps. The Nuremberg trials had just ended at that time,^[43] and the Soviet death toll figures were going around the globe and were discussed widely. Right after occupying the Sachsenhausen camp, the Soviets had forced a captured SS officer to state during a 'documentary film' that a gas chamber existed in the camp. But what he had to shown and label a gas chamber

under massive threats had nothing to do with a gas chamber." (p. 358)

Maser also deals with the gas chamber lie of the Buchenwald camp and discusses the problem of the skin of deceased or murdered inmates of that camp allegedly used for producing a wide array of items (lamp shades, gloves, purses, etc.), without offering these things as "indubitable truth."

The only alleged homicidal gas chamber in a former National Socialist camp on German soil that is still completely intact, however, the one in the former Dachau camp, is ignored by Maser, even though the background of this facility is the best documented of all, including a forensic examination of the place.⁴⁴ But perhaps even Prof. Maser is still one of those historians, whom Prof. Robert Faurisson once called "paper historians."

Conclusion

With *Fälschung, Dichtung und Wahrheit über Hitler und Stalin* Maser has presented his most revisionist book ever. Although it hardly contains any new research results, the many summaries of various older studies are well worth reading. If dealing with the Holocaust, it becomes quickly apparent that Maser is not an expert in that field, as he commits many mistakes that could easily have been avoided. Even though he generally adheres to the traditional view on the Holocaust, his statements are so riddled with revisionist arguments that the book deserves to be called sensational. After all, it was written by nobody else but the world's foremost expert on Hitler.

Several years ago, Maser stated in a private circle to a mutual friend of ours⁴⁵ that as a historian in Germany he could not say and write what he should say and write when considering the evidence, because this would jeopardize his career or even get him in conflict with the law. He even expressed shame over the fact that he would cowardly avoid the issues and tell half lies rather than the entire truth.

His new book indicates that he gained a little more courage after he retired, because he has no career to lose anymore. Another reason may be the paper published recently by Fritjof Meyer, behind whose anti-fascist back Maser can comfortably hide. Let us hope that Maser's courage will grow steadily.

Notes

¹ Cf. for this Michael Gärtner, "Deutsche Geschichtsschreibung," *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 3(4) (1999), pp. 455-458.

² Cf. C. Mattogno, Jürgen Graf, *Treblinka*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004.

³ Cf. C. Mattogno, *Belzec*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago

2004.

⁴ Cf. C. Mattogno, Jürgen Graf, *Concentration Camp Majdanek*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004.

⁵ R. Böhlinger, J. P. Ney, *Gutachten zur Frage der Echtheit des sogenannten Wannsee-Protokolls und der dazugehörigen Schriftstücke*, Deutscher Rechts- und Lebensschutz-Verband (ed.), Verlag für ganzheitliche Forschung und Kultur, Viöl 1992; cf. also Roland Böhlinger (ed.), *Die Stellungnahme der Leitung der Gedenkstätte Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz zu dem von Böhlinger und Ney verfaßten Gutachten zur Frage der Echtheit des sogenannten Wannsee-Protokolls und der dazugehörigen Schriftstücke*, Verlag für ganzheitliche Forschung, Viöl 1995. Both documents are online at www.vho.org/D/Wannsee

⁶ H. Wahls, *Zur Authentizität des "Wannsee-Protokolls"*, Veröffentlichungen der Zeitgeschichtlichen Forschungsstelle Ingolstadt, Band 10, Ingolstadt 1987.

⁷ See also my review of Höttl's autobiography: "Wilhelm Höttl – ein zeitgeschichtlich dilettantischer Zeitzeuge", *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung*, 1(2) (1997), pp. 116f.

⁸ Adalbert Rückerl, Germany's foremost "Nazi-Hunter", regarding all trials against NS crimes, *NS-Verbrechen vor Gericht*, C.F. Müller, Heidelberg, 2nd ed., 1984, pp. 242f., 262f.

⁹ H. Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, Reclam-Verlag, Leipzig 1990, pp. 352f.

¹⁰ Franz J. Scheidl, *Geschichte der Verfemung Deutschlands*, Selbstverlag, Vienna 1968, vol. 4, pp. 239f.

¹¹ Rudolf Servatius, *Verteidigung Adolf Eichmann*, Harrach, Bad Kreuznach 1961, p. 64.

¹² Abraham Melzer, "Ivan der Schreckliche oder John Demjanjuk, Justizirrtum? Justizskandal!", *Semitimes*, special edition March 1992. Shortly after having published this controversial issue, this periodical was forced out of business.

¹³ Attorney at law Jürgen Rieger was sentenced in 2002 for inciting the masses because during a trial in 1996 against a "denier" he had filed a motion to hear me as an expert witness for the fact that the defendant's claims about Auschwitz are correct; *Bundesgerichtshof*, ref. 5 StR 485/01, *Neue Juristische Wochenschrift* 2002, p. 2115, *Neue Strafrechts-Zeitung* 2002, p. 539.

¹⁴ Heiner Lichtenstein, *Im Namen des Volkes?*, Bund, Cologne 1984, pp. 70f., 89, 97f. regarding attorney at law Ludwig Bock, who in 1999 was sentenced in a similar case for filing a motion to introduce exonerating evidence, cf. Rudi Zornig, "Rechtsanwalt wegen Stellung von Beweisantrag verurteilt", *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 3(2) (1999), pp. 208f.

¹⁵ Hellmut Diwald, *Geschichte der Deutschen*, 1st ed., Propyläen, Frankfurt-Berlin-Vienna, 1978, p. 165.

¹⁶ In: Rolf-Josef Eibicht (ed.), *Hellmut Diwald. Sein Vermächtnis für Deutschland. Sein Mut zur Geschichte*, Hohenrain-Verlag, Tübingen 1994, pp. 110-147.

¹⁷ With reference to *Soviet War News*, Dec. 22, 1944, see the reproduction in Joachim Hoffmann, *Stalin's War of Extermination 1941-1945*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Capshaw, AL, 2001, pp. 402-405.

¹⁸ First German edition: Ernst Gauss, *Vorlesungen über Zeitgeschichte*, Grabert, Tübingen 1993, p. 26.

¹⁹ See for instance the great compilation of claimed victim numbers by Robert Faurisson, "How many Death at Auschwitz?", *TR*, 1(1) (2003), pp. 17-32.

²⁰ Following a similarly derogatory style, Maser puts quotation marks around the word "expert" when referring to Fred Leuchter's and my appearances as expert witnesses in courts of law, even though I had been properly summoned by the defense in each of these cases

and had filed a copy of my expert report in the court files. In the same way Maser treats the word "scientific" when using it in the context of our works, pp. 26, 353.

²¹ 1st ed.: von Bebenburg, Pähl 1970, 3rd ed.: Verlag Hohe Warte, Pähl 1973.

²² In a footnote Maser falsely writes, again without a source:

"Germar Rudolf was fired without notice after he had sent some 1,000 'expert reports' [...] and after he had stated to be a 'scientist of the Max Planck Institute' on a letter head of the institute, [...]"

As a matter of fact, my employment contract had been annulled in mutual agreement. It was Otto-Ernst Remer, a defendant on whose behalf I had compiled my expert report, and his coworkers who sent some 1,500 copies of my expert report without any contribution of mine. I also never stated to be a 'scientist of the Max Planck Institute,' and certainly not on a letter head of this institute. Remer's defense lawyer Dr. Schaller claimed that I was a scientist of that Institute. He did that against my wishes during his final plea during the trial against Remer for inciting the people ("Holocaust Denial"). I had appeared at this trial as an expert witness on the initiative of the defense. Dr. Schaller's words were quoted in a report about that trial, which was added as an appendix to a version of my expert report, which Remer had distributed. This text was added to my report without my knowledge and without my consent: "There sits the technical expert and he must not say a word. A scientist from the Max Planck Institute is turned away! And the General should go to prison? You will be responsible for that?" (E. Haller, "Justiz in Deutschland 1992: 'Todesurteil für General Remer'", as an appendix in: Germar Rudolf, *Gutachten über die Bildung und Nachweisbarkeit von Cyanidverbindungen in den 'Gaskammern' von Auschwitz*, Manuskript, Stuttgart 1992, pp. 116-120; reprinted in G. Rudolf, *The Rudolf Report*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003, pp. 352-369, here p. 367.

(www.vho.org/GB/Books/cq/remer.html.) The use of letter heads of my then employer for private correspondence as well as Dr. Schaller's mentioning of my employer in this trial was relevant for the termination of my employment contract only because both events created a link between my private activity as an expert witness and my employer. The pressure exerted upon my employer by the media and by Jewish lobby groups as a result of this was the reason why the contract, which was to end three months later anyway, was terminated prematurely in mutual agreement.

²³ Maser mentions a manuscript by Meyer, with which the latter claims to have proven mass gassings in the so-called "Bunkers" of Auschwitz-Birkenau, p. 336, fn 82. Cf. for this Carlo Mattogno, *The Bunkers of Auschwitz. Reality and Propaganda*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004.

²⁴ Maser does not mention a single one of the many critiques written in response to Meyer. Cf. e.g. Carlo Mattogno, "Auschwitz. Fritjof Meyer's New Revisions", *TR* 1(1) (2003), pp. 30-37; Mattogno, "On the Piper-Meyer-Controversy: Soviet Propaganda vs. Pseudo-Revisionism", *TR*, 2(2) (2004), pp. 131-139.

²⁵ Hans-Jürgen Nowak, "Kurzwellen-Entlausungsanlagen in Auschwitz. Revolutionäre Entlausungstechnik als Lebensretter im Konzentrationslager", *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 2(2) (1998), S. 87-106; Hans Lamker, "Die Kurzwellen-Entlausungsanlagen in Auschwitz, Teil 2", *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 2(4) (1998), S. 261-273.

²⁶ Carlo Mattogno, *Special Treatment in Auschwitz*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004, here in particular the chapter "The Himmler Visit to Auschwitz" starting on p. 17.

²⁷ Filip Müller, *Sonderbehandlung. Drei Jahre in den Krematorien*

und Gaskammern von Auschwitz, Verlag Steinhausen, Munich 1979; Carlo Mattogno has shown that Filip Müller's book is a plagiarize of the story told by Miklos Nyiszli: *Auschwitz: un caso di plagio*, Edizioni La Sfinza, Parma 1986.

²⁸ In Maser's footnote 125, acc. to J.-C. Pressac, *Auschwitz: Technique and operation of the gas chambers*, The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation, New York 1989, p. 181

²⁹ Filip Müller, op. cit. (note 27), pp. 207f.

³⁰ Ibid., p. 217.

³¹ Appendix 18, Vol. XI, Höss Trial, acc. to J.-C. Pressac, op. cit. (note 28), p. 489.

³² APMO, Neg. Nr. 291, section.

³³ US Army Audio-Visual Agency, SC 263997, section.

³⁴ Ernst Gauss, op. cit. (note 18), pp. 283f.

³⁵ Which do exists, of course, which was even called "valuable" by German leftist historian Fritjof Meyer in his article in *Osteuropa* (see note 24): C. Mattogno, F. Deana, "The Crematoria Ovens of Auschwitz and Birkenau," in: G. Rudolf (ed.), *Dissecting the Holocaust*, 2nd ed., Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2003, pp. 373-412.

³⁶ See C. Mattogno's study "Flames and Smoke from the Chimneys of Crematoria", *TR* 2(1) (2004), pp. 73-78.

³⁷ Detailed cross sections of the Auschwitz crematory ovens can be found in Pressac, op. cit. (note 31).

³⁸ Robert Faurisson, "How the British obtained the confessions of Rudolf Hoess," *Journal of Historical Review*, 7(4) (1986), pp. 389 ff.; cf. D. Irving, *Nuremberg. The Last Battle*, Focal Point, London 1996, pp. 241-246.

³⁹ R. Höß, in: M. Broszat (ed.), *Kommandant in Auschwitz*, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt, Stuttgart 1958.

⁴⁰ See for this C. Mattogno, *The Bunkers of Auschwitz*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago 2004, pp. 133-136.

⁴¹ Cf. C. Mattogno, *Auschwitz: The First Gassing*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, in preparation.

⁴² With reference to Reinhold Schwertfeger, "Gab es Gaskammern im Altreich?", *Vierteljahreshefte für freie Geschichtsforschung* 5(4) (2001), pp. 446-449.

⁴³ The Nuremberg trials ended on Oct. 1, 1946.

⁴⁴ Cf. Fred Leuchter, Robert Faurisson, *The Second Leuchter Report*, Samisdat Publishers, Toronto 1990; *Journal of Historical Review* 10(3) (1990), pp. 261-322 (www.vho.org/GB/Journals/JHR/10/3/LeuchterFaurisson261-322.html).

⁴⁵ Although Maser is not aware that we have this mutual friend.

Book Notices

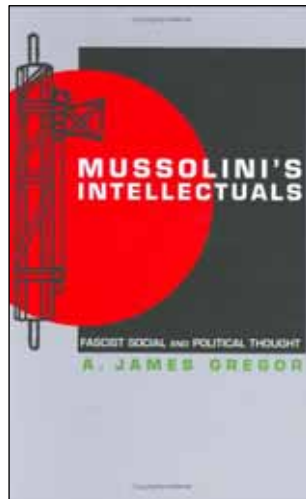
By Francis Dixon

A. James Gregor, *Mussolini's Intellectuals: Fascist Social and Political Thought*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, hardcover, 288 pp., \$35.-

A. James Gregor, professor of political science at the University of California at Berkeley, is that rarity among scholars of Fascism: brilliant, learned, and above all objective. In *Mussolini's Intellectuals* Gregor brings four decades of study of the ideology of Fascism to bear on the lives and thought of its leading thinkers. Where establishment academics have only seen clowns and villains, Gregor gives respectable attention to the "gifted intellectuals" (his words) who pioneered Fascist thought, including Giovanni Gentile, Ugo Spirito, Sergio Panunzio, Alfredo Rocco, and latter-day cult figure Julius Evola. This first chronological account of Mussolini's thinkers is distinguished by its author's verve and bite as well as by his judicious scholarship: Gregor's chapter that dismisses the critics of Fascist ideology among Marxist, psychoanalysts, and liberals is a classic (and funny) demolition of leftist bias and pretensions.

Clarence Lusane, *Hitler's Black Victims*, Routledge Press, New York and London 2002, paperback, 320 pp., \$23.95

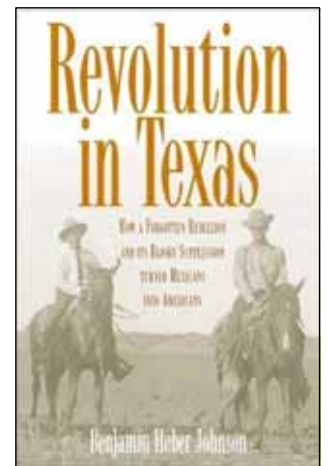
This study by an African-American history professor (American University) and journalist explores an increasingly trendy niche of Hitler-era victimology by describing and analyzing the treatment of full-blooded and mixed-blooded blacks in Germany and abroad. The title misleads, for author Lusane also mines German colonial history in Africa for the overblown (though not in his



mind) 1904 "genocide" of the Hereros in Southwest Africa and other alleged misdeeds, without being able to show that any of them exceed similar practice by British, French, Belgian, and other colonial powers. Lusane, despite his lack of familiarity with German history and the German language, is more sensible and more balanced on the lot of blacks in Germany during the Third Reich, showing that despite their exclusion from the racial community, blacks were not singled out for persecution, and, while certain mulattoes born of rape or liaisons with foreign soldiers were sterilized, a fair number of those mix-breeds fought in the Wehrmacht and were even admitted to the Hitler Youth. Hitler's Black Victims is especially valuable for its insights on African American experiences in 1930s Germany, throwing fascinating light on the pro-German leanings of black intellectual W.E.B. Du Bois as well as conventional accounts of the German (and American) reception of Olympian Jesse Owens and boxer Joe Louis.

Benjamin Heber Johnson, *Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans into Americans*, Yale University Press, New Haven 2002, clothbound, 260 pp., \$30.-

An enlightening account of a largely forgotten chapter in American history: a 1915 insurrection by Mexican guerrillas and resident Chicanos in southern Texas that resulted in the murders of numerous whites before being crushed by the Texas rangers and local posses. Johnson, an assistant professor of history at Southern Methodist, predictably enough devotes more attention and censure to the bloody white reprisals than to

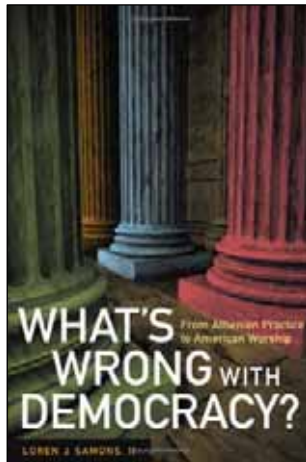


the Mexicans' killings. The author also underrates the influence on the Mexican marauders of the Plan de San Diego, which was devised by revolutionaries south of the border and prescribed the killing of all "Anglo" males over sixteen as part of its scheme for unleashing a race war. Nonetheless, *Revolution in Texas* provides a valuable, and given today's immigration situation, timely ac-

count of an incident that has been neglected in favor of Pancho Villa's more episodic 1916 raids. The 1915 rebellion may have inspired the Zimmerman telegram (if it was not a British forgery), and, Johnson shows, its suppression was the direct impetus for the organization of the still influential League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC).

Loren D. Samons II, *What's Wrong with Democracy? From Athenian Practice to American Worship*, University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, 2004, hardcover, 327 pp., \$27.50

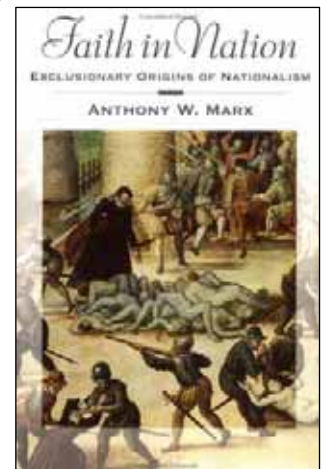
Loren Samons, professor of classical studies at Boston University, takes deadly aim at the cult and taboo of democracy in twentieth century America by reminding of democracy's serious shortcomings in its cradle, fifth century Athens. Samons reminds of the turbulence, corruption, imperialist aggression, and constant danger of oligarchy or mob rule that vitiated popular rule in Athens even at its apogee—and shortly helped reduce the city-state to a political backwater for the following two and a half millennia. Then Samons shows how democracy worship is at its pinnacle in today's America, detailing the grim consequences of that for the nation's present and future: devaluation of the constitutional republic devised by America's founders, with its checks of the tyranny of the majority (or the majority's puppeteers); expropriation of wealth and property by political majorities; uncritical embrace of the popular values of freedom, choice, diversity, and comfort at the expense of the nation-sustaining vir-



tues of duty, discipline, self-sacrifice, and hardiness; and a universal glorification of plebeian coarseness. *What's Wrong with Democracy?* further shines in demonstrating that democracies from Athens to America tend to be warlike, rather than peace-loving, thus debunking an old anti-German canard that today's neocons have dusted off to justify their past and future aggressions against peaceable countries to be "democratized" by bullets, bombs, and missiles.

Anthony W. Marx, *Faith in Nation: Exclusionary Origins of Nationalism*, Oxford University Press, New York 2003, hardcover, 304 pp., \$26.-

This analytic account of the rise of the European nation-state strikes a death blow to the liberal "Whig" theory of leftward "progress" in history by dispatching the myth that tolerance, inclusion, and a nascent democracy were central to the origins of early modern Britain, France, and Spain. Marx, now the president of Amherst College, establishes that the roots of mass political participation in these countries lie in the exclusionary and often intolerant policies of royal rulers in the sixteenth and seventeenth century, when Ferdinand and Isabella cleansed Spain of Jews and Moors, Henry VIII and his successors crushed English Catholicism, and France's religious wars culminated in the expulsion of the Huguenots in 1685. Written in dense prose and in observance of the regnant academic political conventions, *Faith in Nation's* demolition of longstanding establishment historical pieties makes it a pathbreaking revisionist work.



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In Brief

Memories of Auschwitz as Excuse not to Shower

Nursing homes in Chicago are organizing their residents on ethnic lines, where each group has its own traditional food, activities, and a staff that speaks its language. Specialized ethnic care can be helpful, advocates argue. Nursing homes must be aware, for example, of elderly Jewish residents for whom a trip to the shower may trigger memories of the Holocaust. (*Yahoo News*, Oct. 12, 2004) Jews who remember this today must have experienced proper water showers in Auschwitz, though, or otherwise they would not be in these nursing homes today.

Germans Demand War Reparations

When German Chancellor Schröder visited Poland to mark the 60th anniversary of the Warsaw uprising, it inspired the Federation of German Expellees to make demands on Poland. Rudi Pawelka, head of *Preussische Treuhand*, which represents the interests of the former inhabitants of East Prussia, indicated he will initiate court action in Germany and before the European Court of Justice. He claims that because Poland is now a member of the European Union, claims on it are now appropriate. (*The Washington Times*, August 10, 2004) Warsaw resident Izabela Brodacka wanted to be the first Pole to take the German government to court over compensation for suffering caused during World War II. (*Bloomberg*, September 2, 2004) Shortly thereafter, Germany and Poland signed a contract ruling out any civil law suits of their citizens against each other over WWII issues and its aftermath.

IBM asks court to block US\$12 billion Holocaust suit

IBM has asked a Swiss court to block a \$12 billion dollar lawsuit filed by a Gypsy organization alleging that the computer giant's punch card machines used by Germany facilitated the murder of gypsies during World War II. IBM claims that it had no control of its German subsidiary during the war. The charges primarily stem from research done by writer Irwin Black, who in 2001 published a book titled *IBM and the Holocaust*, in which he claimed that IBM supplied the Nazis with both hardware and the software of the day to "computerize" the Holocaust bureaucracy. (*IT News*, Sept. 6, 2004)

Jewish Students Criticized at Auschwitz

A group of university students from Israel, Poland,

and the US were verbally 'attacked' by three French males while visiting the Auschwitz camps. The students were accused of using Auschwitz as a publicity tool for pro-Israeli propaganda. (*Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 11, 2004)

Treblinka, Chelmno, Sobibor to Get Museums

Yad Vashem and the government of Poland are going to build a museum at the former Treblinka camp. It is claimed that about 870,000 people were murdered there. In the future, similar museums will be opened at the former camps at Chelmno and Sobibor. At the same time, the final wording of a memorial plaque in memory of the Jews murdered by fellow Poles in the northeastern Polish village of Jedwabne is still the subject of controversy, and the final text of the memorial plaque may not be ready for years. A recent book documenting the killing of thousands of Jews in Jedwabne by their Polish neighbors – and not, as previously thought by the Nazi occupiers – caused a major stir in Poland, after decades, in which Poles often portrayed themselves as equal victims to the Jews during World War II. (J.T. Gross, *Neighbors*, Princeton University Press, 2001; *Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 20, 2004)

For a revisionist view on these camps see:

- www.ihr.org/jhr/v12/v12p133_Allen.html
- www.air-photo.com/english/trebarea.html
- www.fpp.co.uk/Auschwitz/Treblinka/groundscan.html
- www.cwporter.com/pg2.htm
- vho.org/GB/Books/t
- vho.org/GB/Books/b

Hunt for Swedish 'War Criminals' off Limits

In an unprecedented act of civil courage, Sweden keeps its WWII archives closed to researchers hunting for geriatric veterans who fought against the Soviets and are suspected by Jewish head hunters to have been involved in mostly trumped-up Holocaust charges (*Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 15, 2004).

Citizenship of Alleged NS Camp Guard Revoked

84 year old Joseph Wittje of Bensenville, Illinois, was stripped of his US citizenship and accused by the Justice Department of hiding his membership in an SS battalion that provided guards at the Sachsenhausen camp where thousands died. The government said that because the Waffen SS was a movement hostile to the United States, Wittje was not lawfully admitted to this country when he

was granted citizenship in 1959. (*AP*, Aug. 28, 2004)

Germany Breaks Hitler Taboo with “The Downfall”

A decades-long taboo was broken in Germany in August 2004 with the launch of a movie in which Adolf Hitler appears for the first time in a central role, not as a ranting demagogue but as a soft-spoken dreamer. “The Downfall” is a huge shift from the previous tendency in German cinema to show Hitler only as a background figure or an insane character. It tells the story of the last 12 days of Hitler’s life in his 25ft-deep bunker in Berlin, including his suicide alongside his new wife Eva Braun on April 30, 1945, while advancing Soviet troops pulverize the city with shellfire. (*Daily Telegraph*, Aug. 24, 2004)

Croatians Weep as Wartime Pride is Erased

In an attempt to please European bureaucrats in order to get their approval to join the European Union, Croatia has conducted its first “de-Nazification” since the country became independent in 1991. Under heavy police security, two plaques commemorating war-time officials were removed: one about Mile Budak, war-time education minister, and the other about the former Ustasha military commander Jure Francetic, founder of the Black Legion. Few Croatians show shame about the country’s former liaison with Hitler. Several Croats wept as workers took away the plaques under an escort provided by special police forces. Croatia is also preparing amendments to its penal code to ban the promotion of all totalitarian ideologies, including communism and fascism. (*Daily Telegraph*, Aug. 28, 2004)

German Dissident’s Bank Account and Home Seized

Dr. Rudolf Großkopf, a retired physicist, accidentally learned about revisionism in the early 1990s and made contact with German revisionist publisher Germar Rudolf in 1995. For several years now, Dr. Großkopf was a pro forma co-signer of a bank account owned by Rudolf, which was used by Rudolf’s German customers to pay their invoices. End of August 2004, the German government ordered the bank account seized, and declared that Rudolf owed the German authorities all amounts ever earned by the sale of historical literature deemed illegal in Germany. Since Rudolf was unreachable, the police arrested Dr. Großkopf instead and confiscated his car and home, even though he was never involved in Rudolf’s business. Dr. Großkopf was released after paying a bail of some \$400,000. (*Der Spiegel*, no. 41, Oct. 2, 2004; *Stuttgarter Nachrichten*, Oct. 6, 2004.)

Ernst Zündel’s Appeal Rejected

The Supreme Court of Canada refused to hear the ap-

peal filed by German-born Revisionist Ernst Zündel. As of February 2005, Zündel has been held in solitary confinement in Canada for two years. He has not been charged with any crime, but is merely considered a threat to Canada’s security, based upon secret evidence. The Supreme Court rubberstamped this outrageous act. (*Grand Forks Herald*, Sept. 30)

Estonian Mayor Writes Revisionist Book

Tiit Madisson, mayor of the town of Lihula, Estonia, has written a revisionist book called “New World Order,” which claims that Jews and Masons brought Hitler to power, that Hitler and some of his leading minions were Jews, that there were no mass killings of Jews during the war, and that the supposedly few Jews who did die in the camps were killed by diseases, not poison gas. He also writes that Masons continue to rule Estonia today. The book might be illegal under Estonia’s recently enacted anti-incitement laws. (*Postimees* and *Meie Maa*, Sept. 7, 2004)

Anti-Jewish Writings Found in Paris Main Library

Several books were recently rubberstamped with anti-Jewish inscriptions at the main public library in Paris. A dozen books about the Dreyfus case and legal issues were vandalized. They were rubberstamped on their edge with the words “Against the Jewish Mafia and Jewish Racism” followed by the addresses of a revisionist and an Islamic website. (*Jerusalem Post*, August 26, 2004)

Students Create Stir with Buchenwald Souvenirs

The Bauhaus University in Weimar has begun to create concentration camp souvenirs – until then a taboo topic. The idea sprang from the Buchenwald Memorial, which had until then merely offered books and postcards in its assortment of souvenirs. Now any tourist visiting the Goethe and Schiller city of Weimar can add a souvenir hunt in former concentration camp Buchenwald. (*New York Times*, Sept. 16, 2004)

Using boredom to fight hate. France to distribute copies of ‘Shoah’ film in anti-hate drive

Claude Lanzmann’ 1985 nine-hour film Shoah, has been copied to DVD and will be made available to France’s 5,500 elite high schools in an effort to fight France’s growing anti-Judaism. The number of anti-Jewish attacks within the past year has tripled. (*Ha’aretz*, Sept. 15, 2004) Is Lanzmann aware that spreading Jewish propaganda only increases hostilities toward Jews? But then again, maybe that is what he wants.

Jews Condemn Flick's Berlin Art Show

'Blood money' was the cry mainly of Jewish organizations as Friedrich Christian Flick's art exhibition opened in Berlin, paid mainly with money he inherited from his ancestors. Flick is the Grandson of Friedrich Flick, a former arms manufacturer and steel magnate who equipped the Wehrmacht with weapons. Friedrich Christian, however, deflects any kind of guilt-trip that his art collection was tainted, pointing out that "My grandfather had slave laborers in his firm. That was unjust, but he was sentenced for it. That was just. I don't believe you can inherit guilt. I believe you can inherit responsibility." (*West Australian*, Sept. 22, 2004)

Global Holocaust Denial Bill Passed in Knesset

Legislation that would make Holocaust denial committed overseas an offense under Israeli legal jurisdiction was approved unanimously in first reading by the Knesset on July 20, 2004. The passage of the measure would enable Israel to demand the extradition of Holocaust deniers for prosecution. The bill was drafted as a move against former Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) for his doctoral dissertation 20 years ago, in which he estimated that the Germans killed less than a million Jews. It is likely to serve as a deterrent against Holocaust deniers visiting Israel, although the possibility of countries consenting to extradition on the offense is unlikely. The legislation expands the territorial jurisdiction of the Israeli law against Holocaust-denying outside of its borders. (*Jerusalem Post*, July 20, 2004)

South Australia to Legislate against Racism

Following on from New South Wales and Victoria, South Australia will introduce legislation condemning anti-Semitism and racism. In a speech to B'nai B'rith Adelaide chapter, South Australian Premier Mike Rann confirmed that the Racial Vilification Bill would be introduced into State Parliament soon. "I hope this bipartisan motion will send a clear and unequivocal message that we will never accept violence directly against individuals, religious and cultural institutions," Rann said. The South Australian initiative came about through lobbying by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission (ADC), Victoria's anti-racism watchdog. ADC chairman Dr Paul Gardner said Rann had agreed to introduce the bill to parliament but failed to provide a time frame. He said Australia's existing state and federal bills broadly condemn all manifestations of racism. (*Australian Jewish News*, Aug. 6, 2004)

Wal-Mart Ends Sale of the Protocols

Bending to Jewish pressure, America's largest retailer,

Wal-Mart Inc., has stopped selling *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*. The description, now withdrawn from the Wal-Mart Web site, said, "If ... The Protocols are genuine (which can never be proven conclusively), it might cause some of us to keep a wary eye on world affairs. We neither support nor deny its message. We simply make it available for those who wish a copy." Both Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com sell "The Protocols" online but with strong disclaimers. (*Reuters*, September 24, 2004)

K.R. Bolton's 2003 book, *The Protocols of Zion in Context: The Doctrine of the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion in the Context of Religion, History & Politics*, clarifies a number of issues. It is available for \$15.00 New Zealand, from Renaissance Press, P.O. Box 1627, Paraparaumu Beach, New Zealand

AOL Leads Political Censorship in U.S.A.?

Some months ago the email newsletter Mid-East Realities (MER) was subject to censorship by the Internet service provider AOL. Subscribers complained and MER again began to arrive in email letter boxes. Now censorship has again reared its ugly head, and MER has stopped arriving. (www.middleeast.org/, Oct. 6, 2004)

FBI Seizes Indymedia Servers in U.S. and U.K.

In late August 2004, several lists of Republican National Convention delegates were posted on IndyMedia sites, including home and e-mail addresses and the New York area hotels at which they were staying. Subsequently a U.S. federal grand jury, at the behest of the Secret Service, began investigating and subpoenaed a Web hosting service, Calyx Internet Access, for IndyMedia contact info. Allegedly Italy and Switzerland asked the U.S. for help in suppressing the material on IndyMedia sites, which is why the U.S. went to British authorities, cited a treaty between the two countries, and obtained permission from Britain's Home Office to seize IndyMedia's computers. The FBI insists that it was just trying to help out Italy and Switzerland in their investigation.

The International Federation of Journalists has called for an investigation into the FBI-led seizure of IndyMedia's computers in England and elsewhere in the world. The Electronic Frontier Foundation is helping IndyMedia, and the ACLU jumped in to assist IndyMedia as well. (*Voice In Focus*, Oct. 12, 2004)

Leuchter Report in German by Mainstream Publisher

Teacher, community leader, politician, and 'Holocaust' skeptic Günter Deckert was sentenced to over five years prison, among others for having translated a speech given by Fred Leuchter in November 1991 who claimed

that there were no homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz. On September 24, 2004, Deckert initiated legal action against the German publishing firm Rowohlt who translated and published Stephen Trembley's book *The Execution Protocol. Inside America's Capital Punishment Industry* (New York 1992). In the German edition of Trembley's book under the chapter "Missouri," at p. 124ff., the whole Leuchter Report is reproduced, something that could be actionable.

Virus Attack Against Holocaust Promoters

A new computer virus uses infected computers to launch denial-of-service attacks against the Web site "Holocaust History Project" (holocaust-history.org) that vilifies revisionists and tries to refute them with twisted reasonings. (*TechWeb News*, September 30, 2004) This backfires on revisionism, of course, because suspicions will arise that a revisionist may be the originator of this virus.

UN Weapons Inspector: Iraq Inspection Was Rigged

Scott Ritter, U.N. weapons inspector in Iraq between 1991-1998, says the inspection process was rigged to create uncertainty over WMD to bolster the US and UK's case for war. The final report on the fake chase for WMD in Iraq by the organization "Iraq Survey Group" has taken away any legitimacy that may still be in the public's perception that the Bush-Blair invasion of Iraq was justified. Ritter: "ISG report concludes that all of Iraq's WMD stockpiles had been destroyed in 1991, and WMD programs and facilities dismantled by 1996." Iraq had been burdened with the impossible task of proving a negative. Hence, the inspection process was pre-programmed to fail. Neither the US nor the UK accepted any finding. (*Independent*, Oct. 10, 2004) Ritter has written a book about this: *Frontier Justice: Weapons of Mass Destruction and the Bushwhacking of America*, published by Context Books.

Israelis arrested on 9/11 sue U.S.

Four Israelis arrested in New York on September 11, 2001, a short while after the attacks on the World Trade Center, filed a multi-million-dollar suit in New York District Court on Monday against the American Department of Justice, claiming that their arrests were illegal, and that they were held for months while they were interrogated and tortured. The four were employed by a New Jersey moving firm and were caught filming the attacks and cheering. (*Ha'aretz*, Sept. 15, 2004)

U.S. to Rate Allies on Treatment of Jews

On October 11, 2004, U.S. Congress endorsed the

"Global Anti-Semitism Awareness Act," which requires the U.S. State Department to publish in its annual survey on world human rights abuses an additional special report on treatment of Jewish citizens, although the State Department has a "special envoy for holocaust issues." Criticism from within the State Department calling this special treatment of Jews "favoritism" was denounced by Tom Lantos, a California Democrat and Holocaust survivor, as an alarming nod to "anti-Semitic stereotypes." (*News.telegraph*, Oct. 13, 2004)

Nuclear Whistleblower Vanunu Explains Motivation

On condition that he not speak to foreigners and to any media, Mordechai Vanunu was released on April 20, 2004 after spending 18 years in an Israeli prison. Yet Vanunu gives interviews to foreigners. Following is an unedited verbatim excerpt of an interview on occasion of his 50th birthday with Tony Jones of ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) TV's Lateline:

TONY JONES: You've called these nuclear bombs that Israel has made holocaust weapons. Why draw the comparison with the Jewish holocaust?

MORDECHAI VANUNU: That is true. Any atomic bomb – one atomic bomb is like a Holocaust because it is genocide. Nuclear weapons are genocide. They are not making any distinction between anyone. They are killing children, elders, women, any human being, even animals.

So the atomic bomb is genocide and Israel who are for 50 years brain washing by their historic Holocaust, they are not allowed to use Holocaust weapon and they should be the first people around the world to be against nuclear weapons, but what we saw is Israel was more aggressive and have the atomic bomb and a lot of atomic bomb – all kinds, and they were ready to use them.

So I was the one to remind them and to let the world see that this is a propaganda of Holocaust is not real, not true because at the same time they are speaking about the Holocaust, they are ready to bring Holocaust on human beings in the Middle East and Arab state."

TONY JONES: Mordechai, what do you say to actual survivors of the Holocaust or their children who say that it is precisely because of these weapons that we can prevent another Holocaust ever happening again?

MORDECHAI VANUNU: What I am telling them to the Israel people in Israel, you who have survived the Holocaust, who have the history of the Holocaust, you should be the first people to be against nuclear weapons and to lead, guide, bring the world towards

abolition of nuclear weapons around the world. There is no justification to use atomic bomb. There is no justification to cause Holocaust on other people or genocide. You cannot, even for existence of Israel to use atomic bomb.

In fact, to use atomic bomb will only cause another Holocaust on the Israeli state because that will cause a nuclear war or genocide war with mass destruction weapons, so I believe the Jewish people and I also believe there are many, many people in Israel who are against nuclear weapons, but Israel Government, Israel spy don't let the people speak, raise, to question, to debate this issue of Holocaust weapon, nuclear weapon, but this cannot be forever. The people will rise and will speak and the all the world now against nuclear weapons and the same Israel, too, must be against nuclear weapons.

TONY JONES: But in this case, you not only gave up Israel's secrets, you gave up your own religion, you gave up being a Jew. Why was it necessary to stop being a Jew?

MORDECHAI VANUNU: My issue of religion was a long time before this case, it begun in the age of 16, 17, when I was growing and studying in a Jewish religion school and I start questioning this religion and concluded that I am rejecting this Judaism and I should have my own faith, choose my own religion and towards the beginning of a long way from the age of 16 to the age of 30, then I was baptized in Sydney, Australia." (ABC, Oct. 13, 2004)

Former Israeli Prime Minister Banned from Campus

Two years after it banned former Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu from addressing its students, Concordia University, Ontario, Canada, has now banned another former Israeli prime minister, Ehud Barak. "At a peaceful demonstration outside Concordia's downtown campus last week, speaker after speaker condemned the university for denying the principle of free speech." (*Australian Jewish News*, Oct. 14, 2004) Tell that to David Irving who has faced bans organized by Jewish interests.

Spitting on the Cross – a Talmudic Edict?

The Armenian archbishop in Israel, Nourhan Manougian, did not like it when, during the procession of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem's Old City, a yeshiva student spat at the cross and at the Archbishop. The Archbishop retaliated by slapping the student, and during the ensuing brawl the Archbishop's 17th century ceremonial Medallion broke. Religious Jews, among them yeshiva students, customarily spit on the ground as a sign of disgust on seeing the cross, as it is demanded by the Talmud. The Armenians, who live adjacent to the Jewish Quarter of the Old City, suffer from this phenomenon more than any of the other Christian sects in the Old City. "The Israeli government is anti-Christian," Manougian charges. Lawmaker Rabbi Michael Melchior (Labor Party) says the phenomenon should be tackled through educational means. "I would expect prominent figures among the religious and ultra-Orthodox sectors, such as the chief rabbis, to denounce this phenomenon," he says. (*Ha'aretz*, Oct. 11, 2004)

Battle over Al Aqsa Mosque Continues

Israel's Antiquities Authority backed an assessment by police that the eastern wall of the mosque compound became increasingly unstable after an earthquake in February 2004, and it could collapse with an influx of large crowds during the holy month of Ramadan. Muslim clerics dismissed Israel's claims, saying Arab engineers assured them the site was stable. Ikrema Sabri, mufti of Jerusalem, said: "The Israelis want to reduce the number of Muslims that visit the Al Aqsa compound for one reason only, and that is to create a role for themselves in administering the holy sanctuary and keep as many Muslims away from it as possible," (*The Australian*, Oct. 14, 2004)

Updated: November 30, 2004